





ILLUSTRATIONS

OF

ORNITHOLOGY

BY

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PERNIS APIVORUS, CUVIER.

HONEY BUZZARD—(YOUNG MALE).

PLATE I.

N. S.

P. capite colloque luteo-albis; genis, peropthalmis occipiteque brunneo maculatis; cera, pedibusque viridi-flavis. *Mas. Juv.*

WE are induced to give a figure of this occasional British visitant, not only as illustrative of the group or genus to which it belongs, which will be one of the objects we shall have in view throughout our Work, but as expressive of the plumage of the young male in a state in which it has not been figured hitherto, having been overlooked; or barely glanced at as a mere variety, in the descriptions of ornithological writers. Several specimens in this state of plumage, two of which are now in our possession, have come under our notice within the last three or four years; and it is worthy of remark, that the Honey Buzzard is now more frequently met with than it used to be, which may possibly arise from the greater attention now devoted to Ornithology; the numerous cultivators of this delightful department of Zoology being ever on the watch for subjects of rare or unwonted appearance. We are led to suppose that the plumage of the bird here figured is peculiar to the young male of the genus (and not an accidental variety, as Temminck appears to think it in the Third Part of his Manual), from the fact that several specimens subjected to our inspection have all been marked nearly alike, the white, or cream-white colour upon the head and neck predominating in the whole, and the markings upon the cheeks, orbits, occiput, and lower parts of the body being almost precisely similar in each individual. In these instances the sex was proved by dissection, and all were found to be males; the colour

PERNIS APIVORUS.

and appearance of the cere and legs, as well as other indications, appreciable by the practical ornithologist, plainly showed them to be the young or birds of the year. It may also be remarked, that we have seen specimens of an Indian bird (probably *P. Elliotii*), having a similar distribution of pale yellowish white or cream colour upon the head and upper part of the neck, which leads us to believe that this change prevails in the foreign members of the genus. In Northumberland and Durham, where seven or eight birds of this species have to our knowledge been killed within the last five years, the whole were procured during the autumnal months, or between August and November, and were probably individually driven out of the usual line of the equatorial migration of the species from the northern parts of continental Europe. Upon dissection, their stomachs were found filled, to a greater or less extent, with wasps and their larva (*Vespa vulgaris* and *V. Britannica*), without the appearance of any other animal remains, no vestiges of bones, fur, or feathers being visible; evidently showing that the principal food of this species, as generally has been supposed, is chiefly restricted to insects and those of the Hymenopterous order. Their propensity and keen desire for this kind of food is further exhibited in the instance of a beautiful individual, an adult male, of an uniform dark brown colour, which was taken at Twizell, in a trap baited with a portion of a wasp's comb, part of a nest which it was previously observed in the very act of destroying and scratching out of the ground. The weak and slender bill, destitute of a notch and scarcely festooned, as well as the slightly falcate claws of the Honey Buzzard, point to its inferior predatory powers and disposition, and mark it as an aberrant form, not only of the Falconidæ, but of the Buteoninæ or sub-family of which it forms a constituent part, and of which division it will probably be found to prove the tenuirostral type. In addition to the European species, two others strictly belonging to the group have been recorded; viz. *Pernis ptilonorhynchos* (*Fal. ptilonorhynchos*, Temm. *Pl. Col.* pl. 44), a native of Java and Sumatra, and a species lately brought from continental India, to which Professor Jameson has given the specific title of *P. Elliotii*.

The bird, from which our figure and description is taken, was killed at Newton, near Alnwick, Northumberland, in the autumn of 1834. In extreme length it measured about twenty-one inches, the tail alone being nine; the wings, when closed, reached within an inch and a half of the end of the tail; the bare part of the tarsi about one inch; the middle toe, without the claw, an inch and a half. The bill has the upper mandible slender, black, with a large cere of a greenish or sulphur-yellow colour; the tomia or cutting edges with a very

PERNIS APIVORUS.

slight sinuation or festoon behind the middle; the under mandible strait, weak, without a gonyx, with the tip black, the basal part yellow. The nostrils oblong and obliquely placed in the cere. Sinciput white. The cheeks, the orbits, and a streak from the posterior corner of the eyes, with the tips and shafts of the feathers, olive-brown; the remainder of the head and neck cream-white, with a few feathers upon the occiput streaked and tipped with brown. Breast and under parts cream-white. The shafts and central part of each feather deep brown, upon those of the breast in the form of a narrow streak, but increasing in width lower down, and assuming a lozenge form upon the thighs, flanks, and lower belly. The feathers which clothe the upper parts have their basal half white; the remainder, or that portion exposed to view, being umber-brown with paler margins, except the middle and greater coverts, which have their exterior margins and tips white. The tail above is of a hair-brown, barred and mottled with deeper shades of the same; the bar next the tip double the width of any of the rest; the extreme tip white. The under surface of the tail is white, clouded with pale hair-brown, and each feather exhibits four distinct dark bars. The legs and feet are of a pale greenish-yellow. The claws black, long, and slightly hooked, but very sharp. The irides of a bluish-grey with a slight tinge of yellow.





HYPsipetes GANEESA, SYKES.

PLATE II.

N. S.

“ *H. griseo-brunnea*, subtilis pallidior; alis remigibusque brunneis; capite supra vix cristato metallicè atro. Long. corporis, 10 unc., caudæ 4. Irides intensè rufo-brunneæ.”

Hypsipetes Ganeesa, *Sykes*, Proceed. Zool. Soc. Part. II. p. 86.

ON Plate CXLVIII. of the former series of “Ornithological Illustrations,” we represented a bird under the title of *Hypsipetes ganeesa*, being led to suppose that our specimen might be identical with the species shortly described in the Proceedings of the Committee of Science and Correspondence of the Zoological Society under that name. Upon submitting our figure to Colonel Sykes, however, he pronounced them different; and kindly permitted Mr. Lear to make a drawing from the bird he had described, and which we take the earliest opportunity of placing before our readers. Colonel Sykes remarks a considerable alliance of form to some other genera, and to judge from the drawing there is some mixture of *Sturnus* and *Pastor*, and of *Edolius*, and even of some of the *Ampelidae*. The Colonel adds the following short note to his descriptive characters; “ Tongue bifid and deeply fringed; sexes exactly alike. Stony fruit found in the stomach. Neck short, and head sunk into the shoulders; flight very rapid. Found only in the dense woods of the Ghauts. The tongue is that of *Pastor*, the legs those of *Dicrurus*.”

The bird we formerly described being previously uncharacterised, we may

HYPSIPETES GANEESA.

now apply to it the title of "*olivacea*," and we add the specific characters given with our figure:—

H. olivacea, Jard. & Selby.—*Olivaceo-brunnea, subtilis pallidiore et griseo tincta; capite plumis accuminatis, metalice atris, rostro pedibusque flavis.*—*Hyps. ganeesa?* Ornith. Illust. Pl. CXLVIII.

The species of this genus which have been figured, are: *H. psaroides*, Vig., Gould's Century.—*H. olivacea*, Jard. & Selby, Ornith. Illust. Pl. CXLVIII., under the name of *H. ganeesa*.—*H. ganeesa*, Sykes, Ornith. Illust. N. S. Pl. II.



BRACHYPTUS ENTILOTTUS.

BRACHYPSUS EUTILOTUS, JARD. & SELBY.

PLATE III.

N. S.

B. supra olivaceus, subitus griseo-albus; capite cristato, griseo; alis caudaque ferrugineis; inferiore dorsi plumis longis latisque, structum ciblepyris nonihil exhibentibus.

THE *Brachypi* and *Tricophori* are very closely allied, being in some instances with difficulty separated; in the type of the latter, however, the *T. barbatus*, there is a dilatation and flatness of the bill, with strong rictorial bristles, combined with weak feet, that more conspicuously announce a fissirostral form than the structure of any of the *Brachypi*. In the birds which we have figured under the title of *Tricophori* in our last series, the form of *Brachypus* was approaching rapidly, but one in particular possessed the long and strong nuchal bristles*. In the bird before us we have a few very fine and short hairs in the same situation, but the lengthened feathers of the crown, the form of the wings and feet, with that of all the other parts, are decidedly similar to the conformation of *Brachypus*, and we have for the present preferred placing it in that genus. There is one peculiarity which is very striking, that of the form of the feathers closing the rump; in the genus, and among the *Tricophori*, there is a marked fulness and puffiness of the lower dorsal feathers, but in this bird they assume a regular form, the quills and webs being distinctly marked; they spring from the lower part of the back, are broad, full, and soft, and when pressed in the direction of the quills, may be felt slightly sharp as in the

* *T. tephrogenys*, Plate CXXVII. In our description of this bird, we mentioned that we suspected it to be from India. We have since received it from the Gambia and Sierra Leone.

BRACHYPSUS EUTILOTUS.

genus *Ceblepyris*, which is occasioned by a structure similar, but much less developed in the strength or hardness of the shaft.

We received our specimen of this curious species from Singapore, for which, with some others nearly equally interesting, we are indebted to Mr. Armstrong, India Buildings, Liverpool; we have endeavoured to represent it as nearly as possible of the natural size and colours. The upper parts of the plumage are of an oil-green, greyish on the head and crest, and becoming nearly rufous on the wings and tail; the large feathers covering the rump are deep olive-brown, with pale oil-green tips. The lower parts are nearly pure white, fading into grey upon the sides of the breast and cheeks, and which gradually darken into the oil-green of the upper parts; the feet and legs are bluish-grey.







IANTHOCINCLA SQUAMATA, GOULD.

PLATE IV.

N. S.

I. brunnea, plumis lunula nigra ad apicem notatis; alis caudaque nigris, remigibus primis marginibus griseis, rectricibus ad apices ochraceo-flavis nigro lunulatis, basi castaneis.

Ianthocincla squamata, *Gould*, Proceed. of Commit. of Zool. Soc. for 1835, p. 47.

MR. GOULD formed the above named genus from a series of birds inhabiting the Alpine regions of India, allied to the thrushes in their form, and reputed to be so in their manners; but in this respect we have, as usual, to regret a want of authentic and detailed information. "The chief distinguishing characteristics of the genus," Mr. Gould remarks, "are the comparative length of the tarsus; the length of the hinder toe, and the great length of the claw by which it is terminated; the roundness, concavity, softness, and yielding character of the wings and tail; and the peculiar fulness, lightness, and downiness of the whole plumage, and particularly that of the back and rump." *I. ocellata* (*Cinclosoma ocellatum* of the Century of Himal. Birds) is taken as the type, and six species are described. The bird which is the subject of the accompanying Plate will exhibit a general idea of the form; it is about nine and a half inches long, and marked by the lunulated tip of black which terminates each feather.





COLUMBA PRINCEPS

1826

COLUMBA PRINCEPS, VIGORS.

PLATE V.

N. S.

“ *C. supra cinerea, subtus alba; nucha rufo-castanca, metalicè splendente, scapulas versus vinacea; gutture viridi, metalicè splendente; cauda supra cacaotica, infra pallidiori.* ”

Columba princeps, Vigors, Proceed. of Commit. of Zool. Soc. 1833, Part I. p. 78.

A PAIR of these beautiful pigeons formed part of the collection in the Gardens of the Zoological Society in 1833, and were briefly characterized as above by Mr. Vigors. Having succeeded in procuring drawings from the living birds, we hasten to give them publicity.

The nearest ally in colouring is the *C. spadicea* of Temminck, but in that gentleman's figure by Madam Knip, the tarsi are not feathered, and the upper part of the back and wing-coverts are chestnut. In our drawing the tarsi are represented feathered to the toes, and across the shoulders and upper part of the back there is a zone of deep purple. In size it exceeds by one-fourth that of the Wood Pigeon of Europe, and so far as we can presently judge, we feel inclined to refer it to the genus *Ptilonopus* of Swainson. The specimens in the Gardens were received from Australia.







CRAX YARRELLII, BENNET.

RED-KNOBBED CURASSOW.

PLATE VI.

N. S.

C. nigerrimus, posteriore tibiarum, ventre crisoque albis; cera basique maxillæ coccineis.

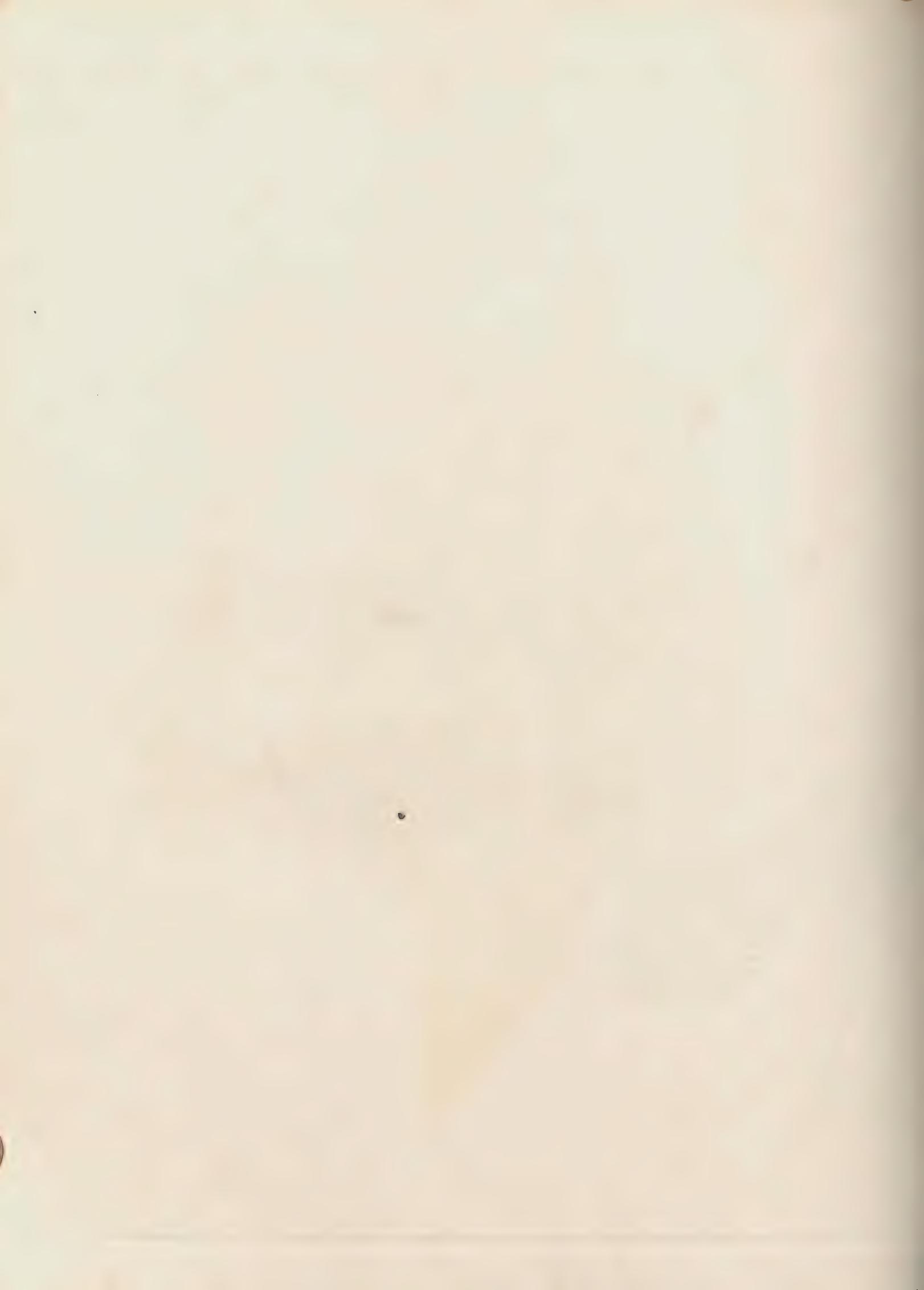
Crax Yarrellii, *Benn.* *Gard. and Menag. of Zool. Soc.* II. p. 226.
Hocco a barbillons, *Crax carunculata??* *Temm. Pig. et Gall.* III. p. 44.

ORNITHOLOGISTS are indebted to the late Mr. Bennet for the first tangible description of this bird: it is possible that it may have been previously noticed, and the synonyme which we have quoted above with a doubt may be referable to it; but the details are so indistinct, that it is difficult to reconcile the species with the accounts of any of them.

The description above alluded to occurs in the "Gardens and Menagerie of the Zoological Society," accompanied with a characteristic wood-cut; at that period the bird was very rare in England, and Mr. Bennet, in pointing out the distinctions which separated it from the others, and from its nearest ally the *C. globicera*, remarked that still further differences would most probably be seen in the anatomical structure, when a specimen could be dissected. These surmises have been since verified by Mr. Yarrell, and considerable variation has been found to exist in the trachea, from all those species of which the anatomy is known. We have thought, therefore, that a good coloured figure of this bird would fill a blank in our ornithological knowledge; and we are indebted to the pencil of Mr. Lear for a drawing taken from the living specimen in the Gardens of the Society.



PLATE 17
MELANOPTILUS CALIGINOSUS



HÆMATOPUS PALLIATUS, TEMMINCK.

BROWN-BACKED OYSTER-CATCHER.

PLATE VII.

N. S.

H. capite colloque nigris; dorso, uropigio alisque brunneis, tetricibus superioribus caudæ, totoque corpore infra purè albis; tarsis pedibusque pallidè rubris.

Huiterier a Manteau. *Hæmatopus palliatus*, *Temm.* *Man. d'Orn.* II. p. 532.

Brown-backed Oyster-catcher, *Lath. Gen. Hist. of Birds*, IX. p. 358.

The American Oyster-catcher, *Audubon*, *Orn. Biog.* III. p. 181, pl. cxxiii., Male.

IN our description of *H. articus*, Plate CXXV. of the former series of Ornithological Illustrations, we remarked that we had been unable to procure a specimen of the *H. palliatus*, Temm. Since then, we have, through the kindness of Mr. Macgillivray, Conservator to the Museum of the College of Surgeons in Edinburgh, been gratified with the loan of one, which was procured by Mr. Audubon on the Florida Keys during his last arduous journey. We are not aware of any existing figure of this bird, except that given by the above mentioned ornithologist in his large work, and we are now induced to represent it, both to exhibit the two American species, and to resolve the doubts of some of our friends, who have conceived that our *H. articus* was nothing more than the *H. palliatus* of Temminck.

This bird was certainly unknown to Wilson; his plate, though reduced, exhibits all the characteristic marking of *H. articus*; particularly the descent of the black of the back upon the rump, which in the European bird is so beautifully pure; while the hair-brown mantle of the other could never have escaped the notice of an observer so accurate.

HÆMATOPUS PALLIATUS.

The length of the specimen before us (perhaps slightly stretched,) is about twenty-one inches and a half. It is the largest of the genus; the head and neck are black, with a greenish reflection, the black scarcely at all descending upon the breast. The mantle, shoulders, greater and lesser wing-coverts, and rump, are hair-brown; the upper tail-coverts only being white on the superior surface of the bird. The quills and tail are nearly black, the base of the latter white. The secondaries are also white, forming a bar of this colour across the wings; the under parts are pure white.

This species, so far as we yet know, is confined to the American continent, but it there seems to have an extensive range; Temminck gives at once "l'Amerique Meridionale" as the locality. Mr. Audubon remarks of its distribution on the northern continent: "It spends the winter along the coast from Maryland to the Gulf of Mexico, and being then abundant on the shores of the Floridas, may be considered a constant resident in the United States. At the approach of spring, it removes toward the middle states, where, as well as in North Carolina, it breeds. It seems scarcer between Long Island and Portland in Maine, where you again see it, and whence it occurs all the way to Labrador."

The species of this limited genus, of which we appear to have authentic descriptions, are—

1. *H. ostralegus**, the common British species, so far as we know only European, but perhaps also Asiatic. Distinguished by the lower part of the back and rump being pure white.
2. *H. articus*. North America; the species described and figured by Alexander Wilson. Distinguished by the lower part of the back and rump being black.
3. *H. palliatus*. Both continents of America, most frequent in the southern parts of North America. Upper parts, hair brown.
4. *H. niger*, found in Southern Africa and Australia. Entirely black.
5. *H. leucopus*. *Ostralega leucopus*, Less., found on the Malouine Isles. Plumage coloured nearly as in *H. ostralegus*; legs and feet white.

* In Dr. Richardson's Tables of the Geographical Distribution of the Birds of North America, *H. ostralegus* is mentioned; is this the true *ostralegus*, or has *articus* been taken for it?





BERNICLA SANDVICENCIS, VIGORS.

SANDWICH ISLAND BERNICLE-GOOSE.

PLATE VIII.

N. S.

“ *B. brunneo-nigrescens*, subtus marginibus plumarum pallidioribus; collo albescenti; gula, facie, capite superne lineaque longitudinali nuchali nigris; crisso albo.—Long. tot. 24 unc.; rostri, rictus, $1\frac{1}{2}$; alæ, $13\frac{1}{4}$; caudæ, 5; tarsis, $2\frac{7}{8}$.”

B. Sandvicencis, Vigors, Proceed. of Commit. Zool. Soc.

WE owe our acknowledgments to Earl Derby for permitting us to have drawings made from some very interesting birds in the Collection of Knowlsley; and, among others, for the subject of the accompanying plate. Specimens of the Sandwich Islands Bernicle were received alive, about the same period with those sent to the Zoological Society's Gardens, and we avail ourselves of the valuable account of the habits of the birds at Knowlsley, transmitted by their noble possessor to the Committee of that Society.

“ Through the kindness of John Reeves, Esq., I received at Knowlsley a pair of these birds on the 15th of February, 1834. They did not at first, when turned out on the pond among the other water-fowl, appear to take much notice of each other; but some workmen being at the time employed about the pond, one of the birds (I think, from the recollection, it was the male) seemed to have formed some sort of attachment to one of the men working. Whenever he was present the goose was always near to him, and whenever absent at his dinner, or when otherwise employed, the bird appeared restless, and gave vent to its solicitude by frequent cries, which, as well as the anxiety, always ceased with the reappearance of the workman.

BERNICLA SANDVICENCIS.

“ The man having frequently occasion to pass through a door which was obliged to be kept open, it was feared that the attachment of the animal might lead to its following its friend, and that on its exit it might fall in with and be worried or stolen by vermin; and in consequence the pair of geese were confined in one of the divisions adjacent to, but divided from, the pond, on February 26.

“ Within this small inclosure, in the sheltered half of it, in one corner, stood a small hutch, in which the female on the 5th of March laid her first egg. Till within a few days of that period no alteration took place in their manners; but it then became obvious that the male was jealous of intruders, and would run at and seize them by the trowsers, giving pretty sharp blows with his wings; but this always ceased if he observed that the female was at some distance, when he would instantly rejoin her: his return to the female was always accompanied by great hurry and clamour, and much gesticulation up and down of his head, but not of the wings. Three other eggs followed on the 7th, 9th, and 11th of March. The eggs were white, and very large in proportion to the size of the bird, being, I should imagine (for having no proper scales at hand, I did not weigh or subtract any of them, hoping that more might be laid), fully equal to those of the swan goose or *Anas cygnoides*. The goose also surprised us by the rapidity of her operations, for we were hardly aware of the fourth egg having been laid that morning, when it was evident that she had begun to sit. During the whole period of incubation, there could not be a more attentive nurse; and, indeed, she could not well help it, for the male, if she seemed inclined to stay out longer than he thought right, appeared by his motions to be bent on driving her back; nor was he satisfied till he had accomplished his object, when he again resumed his usual position, with his body half in half out of the hutch and his head towards the female; but if any person crossed the yard of the division, he would immediately hurry after the intruder, though, if he found there was no intention of molesting the nursery, he seemed generally satisfied, and did not like to quit the sheltered part of the division. At night he constantly made room for himself by the female, the result of which was unfortunate towards the progeny.

“ On the 12th of April the eggs began to chip, and on the 13th two goslings were excluded; but it was found that the mother had pushed from under her the other two eggs, which were consequently taken away and put under a hen, though, as one was very nearly cold, little hopes of any success with that were entertained; and it was in fact never hatched, but probably died in consequence of the removal by the goose at an important moment. On the morning

BERNICLA SANDVICENCIS.

of the 14th, it was ascertained that she or the male, who always now sat close beside her in the box, had killed one of the two she had at first hatched, for it was found dead and perfectly flat. The fourth egg which was put under the hen, was assisted out of the shell, and appeared weakly from the first, and as its mother had lost one, we put it to her in hopes it would do better than with its nurse. She took to it at first very well; but, subsequently, both the parents beating it, it was returned to and well cared for, apparently by the nurse, but died on the 20th, having received some injury in one eye, either from the old ones, or perhaps from the hen scratching, and thereby hitting it. The remaining gosling is doing well, and appears strong and lively, and the parents are extremely attentive to it; and I have little doubt but these birds may easily be established (with a little care and attention), and form an interesting addition to the stock of British domesticated fowls.

“ In its general appearance, and its Quaker-like simplicity of plumage, it seems to approximate most to the family of the *Bernicles*; but it appears to have almost as little (if as much) partiality for the water as the *Cereopsis*.”

PLATE IX
N. 8



SPINDALIS BILINEATUS
1836

Leach

GENUS SPINDALIS, JARD. & SELBY.

CHAR. GEN.—*Rostrum* sub breve, validum, ad basin trigonum, apice compresso, emarginato, culmine arcuato, tomiis subsinuatis, in medio rostri introrsum inclinantibus; naribus nudis, rotundatis. *Alæ* mediocres, subrotundæ, remige 1mo. 2do. brevioribus, 3tio. 4toque aequalibus, longissimis. Cauda mediocris, aequalis. *Pedes* breviusculi subfortes.



SPINDALIS BILINEATUS, JARD. & SELBY.

BILINEATED SPINDALIS.

PLATE IX.

N. S.

S. capite lateribusque colli nigris, fasciâ superciliare maxillareque albis, gulâ albâ, pectore aurantiaco, dorso unopygioque luteo-virescente, alis nigris, tectricibus majoribus albo late marginato, cauda nigra, rectrice exteriore macula alba notata.

AFTER a careful examination of various works, we have been unable to identify, with any description or figure, the subject represented upon the accompanying Plate, three or four specimens of which we received some time

SPINDALIS BILINEATUS.

since from Jamaica, in the interior and mountainous part of which island they were procured by our correspondent. Judging from the general characters the bird presents, it appears to belong to the *Tanagrinae* or *Tanagers* (the sub-typical or dentirostral division of the *Fringillidae*), a group inhabiting the islands and continent of America; but as it exhibits characters different from any of the established generic divisions belonging to this sub-family, we have thought it necessary to give its peculiar characters, leaving it to subsequent investigation to determine whether they are, as we suppose, such as to entitle it to rank as a generic, or only as a sub-generic type. In the form of the bill it seems not to be far removed from *Aglaia*, Swains.; though it is stronger, more trigonate, and extended at the base, with the culmen more decidedly arched; the tip of the upper mandible projects over that of the lower, and is emarginate, giving to the contour and aspect of the bill a considerable resemblance to that of the genus *Bethylus*, Cuv. The nostrils are round, naked, and open, and the rictus unarmed or destitute of vibrissæ, indicating it to be essentially a granivorous or frugivorous feeder. The wings, which are of mean length, present a formula of the feathers different from those of the genera *Tanagra* or *Aglaia*. The legs are short, the tarsi scarcely measuring three-quarters of an inch in length, and the feet and claws show that its habit is insessorial. Of its manners and natural history we are unfortunately without information; for although a bird conspicuous for the beauty and well defined colours of the plumage, and inhabiting one of our oldest colonial possessions, it seems to have remained unnoticed up to the present time: this to many may appear extraordinary, but so it is, that the natural productions of most of our West Indian possessions are more imperfectly known than those of more distant parts of the globe; a fact which can only be accounted for from the indifference exhibited by the planters to every thing connected with science or scientific pursuits.

The colour of the bill is bluish-black; the head and sides of the neck are black, with a well marked superciliary and maxillary fascia of white reaching half-way down the neck; the chin is also white. The breast is of a fine orange, the barbs of the feathers somewhat stiff and decomposed; the belly and flanks are bright yellow. The vent and under tail-coverts white. The back is of a greenish or wax-yellow; the wings are black; the greater coverts deeply edged with white, the third, fourth, and fifth having it very conspicuous at the base, and the second, third, fourth, and fifth are each of them notched or emarginate near the middle. The tail is even, the feathers black, except the

SPINDALIS BILINEATUS.

exterior, which has a triangular white spot near the top of the inner web. The legs and feet are bluish-black.

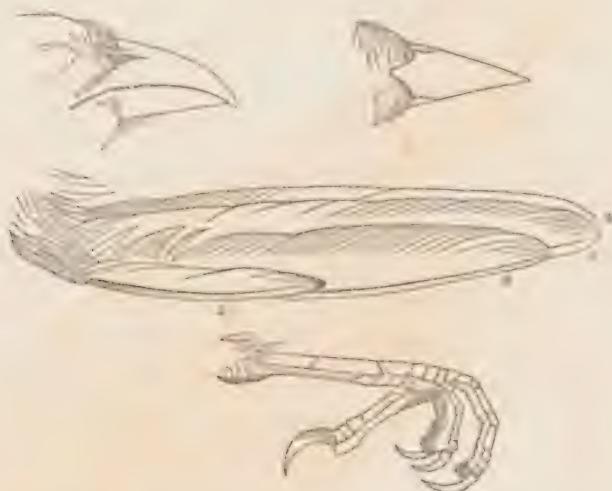
In the form, we see the bill wide and trigonate at the base, compressed towards the tip, which projects over that of the under mandible, and the culmen is regularly and considerably arched. The tomia are slightly sinuated, and, towards the middle of the bill, bent inwards; the third and fourth quills are equal, and the longest in the wing. The first is about three lines shorter than the second, which is nearly as much shorter than the third.

The length of the bird is eight inches; the bill rather more than half an inch; the breadth at the base three-eighths of an inch. The tail three inches and a quarter. Tarsus three-quarters of an inch; middle toe, with its claw, nearly the same. Exterior and inner toes of equal length. Hallux and claw, five-eighths of an inch.



GENUS EUPODES, JARD. & SELBY.

CHAR. GEN.—*Rostrum compressum, culmine tomiisque mandibulae curvatis; naribus ut in Ploceo. Ales subbreves, remige primo, dimido-longitudine secundi equante, secundo, tertio, quartoque gradatis, quarto quintoque longissimis. Pedes, validi, digitis interioribus exterioribus brevioribus.* Hab. Africa meridionali occidentaliique.



EUPODES XANTHOSOMUS, JARD. & SELBY.

YELLOW-BODIED LORET.

PLATE X.

N. S.

E. supra olivaceo-brunneus, subitus flavus, gula pallidiore, brunnea undulata; rostro plumbeo tomiis pallidioribus.

Symplectes chrysomus, Yellow-bodied Loret, *Swains.*, Birds of W. Africa, in Nat. Lib. I. p. 170.

THIS very interesting bird has been long in our collection under the above generic and specific names, and they have been for many months engraved on our Plate. This will account for our quoting Mr. Swainson's name as a synonyme; it is probable that it will have the priority of publication, and we make this explanation that we may not be subjected to the imputation of making unnecessary changes. We are not aware that the species has been yet figured in any work.

EUPODES XANTHOSOMUS.

Mr. Swainson appears to have entertained the same opinion with ourselves regarding this bird. That gentleman remarks: "In its whole appearance, as regards the size, colour, and the stoutness of the feet, the breadth and great curvature of the claws, and the shortness and evenness of the tail,—our bird shews an unquestionable affinity to the large race of Weavers, forming the restricted genus *Ploceus*. This point being admitted, we get the double affinities of *Ploceus*; for that genus is so intimately connected with *Euplectes*, that every link in the chain of connexion is filled up, and more than one *Ploceus* evinces a tendency to the structure of our present subject; distinguished, nevertheless, from all others by having the spurious quill half as long as the second, which, with the third is graduated; so that the fourth and fifth quills are longest; the bill, moreover, is considerably compressed and its commissure in no wise sinuated; lastly, the inner toe is shorter than the outer one. These characters are all of a *positive* nature, and with the above considerations, leads to the belief that this is the aberrant type of the circle of the Weavers*."

The Yellow-bodied Loret appears to be a bird of considerable rarity; we have received it once or twice from Southern Africa, from Dr. Smith, and once from Sierra Leone, but a single specimen only at a time in each collection. There is also a specimen in the Edinburgh Museum, but we do not know whence it was received. Mr. Swainson mentions having had it sent to him from Senegal, so that its range from the Cape of Good Hope must be rather extensive.

Our specimens measure in length from six inches and a half to six inches and three-quarters. It is of a very strongly formed and compact make, appearing thick and short from the comparative shortness of the tail. The bill seems to be, when living, of a bluish-black or lead colour, paler toward the tip and on the edges, compressed, with the culmen rather flat at the base, and entering considerably among the plumage of the front. All the upper parts of the bird, cheeks and sides of the neck, wings and tail, are of a deep olivaceous umber-brown, rather paler on the rump and tail-coverts, and these in some specimens slightly tinted with pale yellow; the under-coverts of the wings and axillary feathers are white. The whole under parts are of a deep and rich gamboge-yellow, most intense on the breast and palest on the throat; this part is in some specimens spotless, but in others it is undulated with brown of the same tint but rather paler than that of the upper parts. The feet and legs are of a yellowish brown, perhaps in the living state tinted with pink.

* Birds of Western Africa in Naturalist's Library, i. p. 170.





SPERMOPHAGA HÆMATINA, JARD. & SELBY.

BLUE-BILLED HARD-BILL.

PLATE XI.

N. S.

S. nigerrimus, gula, pectore hypochondriisque coccineis; rostro cæruleo, tomiis apicibus rubris.

La Loxie Hæmatine, *Loxia hæmatina*, *Vieill.* Ois. Chant. Pl. LXXVII.?

Loxie Mouchetté, *Loxia guttata*, *Vieill.* Ois. Chant. Pl. LXXVIII.??

Blue-billed Nut-cracker, *Spermophaga cyanorynchus*, *Swainson*, Birds of W. Africa, I. p. 164.

THE two Plates which we have quoted above as synonymes from Vieillot's "*Oiseaux Chantures*," represents birds which are either identical or very closely allied; but we are rather inclined to the latter opinion, the form which has been given to the bill being very distinct, while the distribution of the colouring is sufficiently varied to confirm this also. It is from these circumstances that we quote the synonymes with a doubt. The specimen from which our drawing was made was sent to us some years since by Mr. Gould, who could not then name the country whence it was received. In the colouring and distribution of the markings, it agrees exactly with Vieillot, Pl. LXXVII., but the form of the bill is that represented by Pl. LXXVIII.

Mr. Swainson has received this bird from Senegal; for although he has not figured it, the bird described by him as *Spermophaga cyanorynchus* is evidently the same with that which we possess. This gentleman considers it identical with Vieillot's birds, *L. guttata* being the female, and has changed the specific name, which we think is a pity, if he is correct in the other points: the white markings on the breast, however, would be a curious arrangement if peculiar

SPERMOPHAGA HÆMATINA.

to the female, and in Vieillot's plate the upper tail-coverts are represented of the same crimson colour with the breast; for the present, therefore, while we quote the synomynes with a doubt, and with the view of drawing attention, we would consider our specimen identical with Vieillot's *L. hæmatina*, and would look upon the *L. guttata* of the same ornithologist as distinct.

Mr. Swainson has very properly formed a genus for the reception of this curious bird, which we at once adopt. The difference in its structure from all the other finches warrants its separation. The principal and most striking variations are seen in the bill entering among the plumes of the head, in the nostrils being placed laterally but behind the horny part of the bill, and being entirely concealed by the feathers of the forehead; the wings rounded and short, the first quill hardly spurious, the fifth longest; the tail long, ample, and considerably graduated.

The length of our specimen is about five inches five eights. The bill strong, particularly the under mandible, which reaches backwards on the sides of the cheek as in the genus *Ramphopis*, the base at the same time becoming more than proportionally broad; the surface is smooth, polished, and shining; the colour a rich cobalt-blue, crimson at the tip and edges. Plumage of the head and neck close and thick set; the whole of the upper parts, the centre of the belly, and under tail-coverts, of a deep and dull black; upon the rump, very slightly tinted with crimson. The throat, sides of the neck, breast, and flanks, of a deep and rich scarlet red.

PLATE XI
S S



PIASANT'S LINNET

Linn.



PHASIANUS LINEATUS, LATHAM.

LINEATED PHEASANT.

PLATE XII.

N. S.

“ *P. supra cano-griseus, fasciis gracilibus nigris undulatis: capite, crista elongata, gula, collo anteriore infra nigris; abdominis lateribus plumis in medio lineis gracilibus albis notatis; cauda albo nigroque undulatim sparsa* *.”

Lineated Pheasant, *Latham*, Gen. Hist. VIII. p. 201, No. 14.

Le Faisan de Reynaud.—*Phasianus Reynaudii*, *Lesson*, in Belanger’s “ *Voyage aux Indes Orient.*,” p. 276, and Plates VIII. and IX., Male and Female.

THE Lineated Pheasant is described by Dr. Latham in his General History of Birds, from an account forwarded to him by Dr. Buchanan, who procured it from a specimen confined in an aviary. It appears to be a bird of extreme rarity, or perhaps we should rather say, that being a native far into the interior of the country, it is very rarely brought to any place frequented by Europeans, and is still less frequently procured by native collectors. Until lately, it stood in the list of dubious species, described either by accounts received from a distance, or from drawings, and not from specimens seen by the writers of the descriptions. Specimens however, have been received by the Zoological Society of London, to whose liberality we owe our present drawing, made by Mr. Lear. We have not seen the bird ourselves, and can therefore venture no description from the skin, but we publish the figure as the only one in this country which has been yet made from the bird itself; and the

* Vigors, in Proceed. of Comm. Zool. Soc., I. 14.

PHASIANUS LINEATUS.

known talents of the draughtsman are a good guarantee for accuracy. We may remark, that this bird belongs to the same division which will contain the common Silver Pheasant (*Ph. nyctithimerus*). The head crested with silky plumes; the tail with the feathers broad, bending, and folded, and approaching somewhat to the form which is seen in the true Cocks (*Gallus*). The distribution of the colouring in the two birds, thus allied, also corresponds; pale or white above, marked with delicate tracings of black; dark or black on the crest, throat, and under parts.

Lesson, in the Zoology to Belanger's "*Voyage aux Indes Orientales*," has figured both sexes of a bird, which, though differing slightly from our drawing, we consider identical with Latham's species. The specimens were procured in the kingdom of Pegu, and are now in the Parisian collection. The female is in this Work figured and described, we believe, for the first time, and is represented with the crest nearly as long as that of the male. The upper parts are of a dull brown, with darker narrow markings on the feathers. The lower parts are of a more chestnut tint, having the centre of each feather tinted with a pale streak. The principal tail-feathers are white; the others are barred with brown instead of black. The general entire appearance corresponds with the garb of the females of these birds; but judging from the developement of the crest, large bare space around the eyes, the manner in which the tail and markings are represented, we should say the figure was taken from a young male rather than a female, and that a good representation of the adult female was still wanting.



VULTUR? HYPOLEUCUS.

1897.

VULTUR? HYPOLEUCUS.

WHITE-BELLIED VULTURE.

PLATE XIII.

V. *Regione ophthalmica nuda; capite, collo totoque corpore subtus albis; dorso alisque brunneo-nigris, cauda nigra, apice albo.*—*Mas. ad.*

V. *Brunneus subtus pallidior, area circa oculos nuda.*—*Fæm.*

The Vulturine Caraçara Eagle? *Bennet*, Gardens and Menagerie of Zool. Soc. II. p. 302.

IT has been the practice for several years, with the Naturalists of this country, to name as new and characterize very concisely the various unknown species of the vertebrata which reach Britain, and which are either purchased by or presented to the principal Societies. These short descriptions appear either in "Proceedings," which are published as a useful abridgment of the business of each meeting, or in "Transactions," or in some of the Journals connected with the Societies; and no figure being given with them, it is often very difficult to make the species out; while to one anxious to keep up with the progress of discovery, it is sometimes extremely annoying. In order to ascertain the species so far as possible without actually seeing them, we have from time to time procured drawings of many of the birds thus described, from the original specimens themselves, and under the directions of their describers. Such was the case with the subject of the first plate of the present Number; and it is now published as an illustration of the bird shortly described in the work referred to, and with the view of fixing definitely the species there alluded to. We have not seen the specimen itself, but so far as we can ascertain, it is yet unfigured, and the names of Mrs. GOULD and LEAR will be sufficient guarantee for the accuracy of our representations.

The interesting bird now figured is one of those to which the above remarks will apply, though a wood-cut and a description, which we shall immediately use, have been given in Gardens and Menagerie of the Zoological

VULTUR? HYPOLEUCUS.

Society, and soon after it was thus brought to notice, we had the drawing sent to us made by Mr. Lear from the living birds in the Society's Gardens.

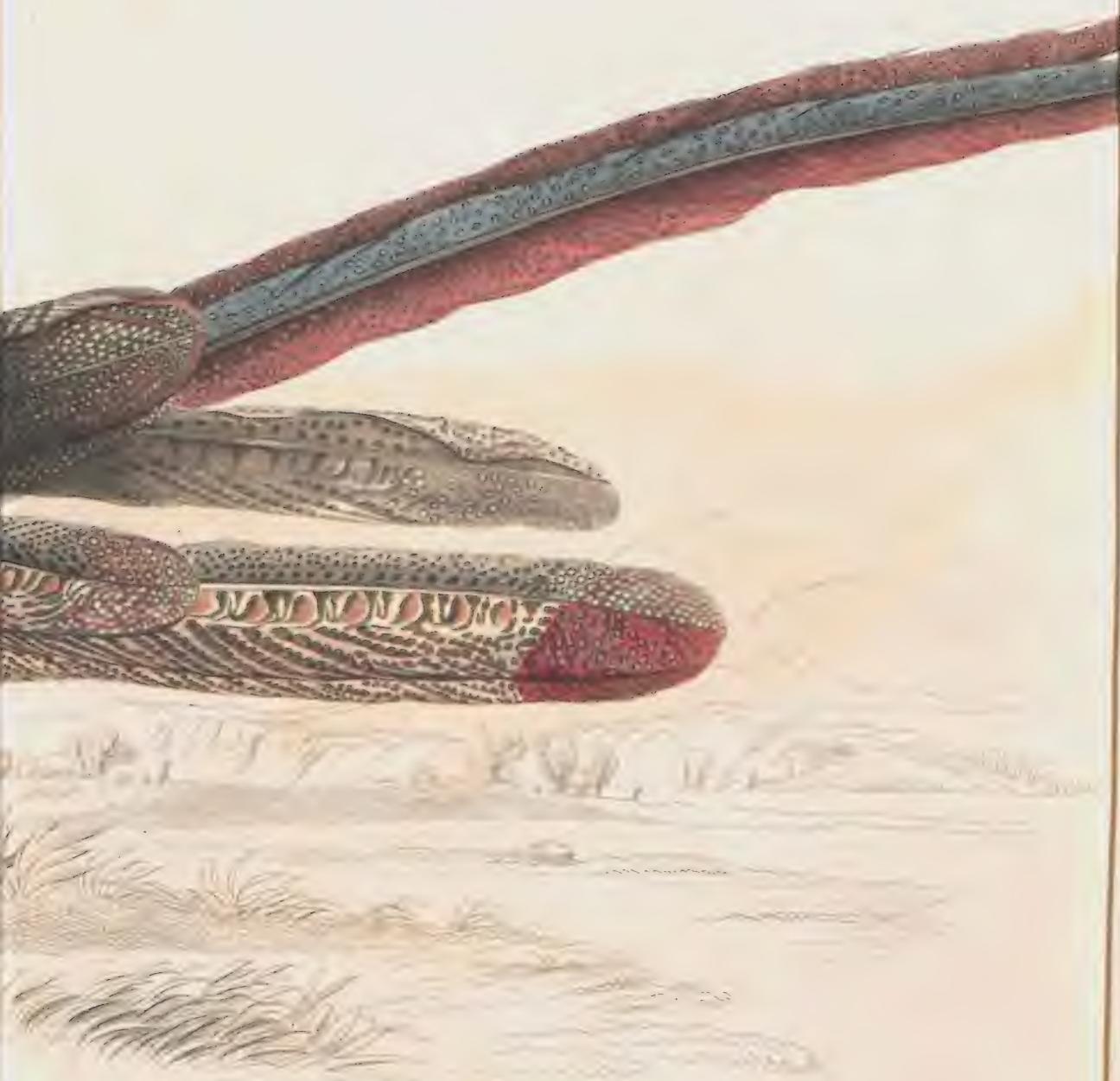
Mr. Bennet has described this bird as a *Polyborus*, but with a mark of doubt. It will, however, clearly enter into the *Vulturine* family; but from the clothed head and the aquiline form and manners, will, we have no doubt, as Mr. Bennet suggests, form the type of a new group which will assist in joining the families of *Vulturidæ* and *Falconidæ*. This we could not do without an inspection of the birds themselves, and must leave the task to those who have either already prepared their materials, or who have still the birds in their power for examination. The notes which Mr. Bennet has left us represent the characters as approaching near to those of the true vultures. The naked space on the cheeks, though not extensive, surrounds the eyes entirely, and the feathers covering the head and neck are downy in their texture. The bill is strong, "deep, elongated, and nearly similar in form to that of the Caraçara, but more compressed or flattened at the sides;" the gape is long, straight, and without dentation. The nostrils are placed transversely near the fore part of the naked cere, and are long-oval in their form, sloping obliquely downwards and forwards. The wings are long, reaching to or even beyond the extremity of the tail, and are rounded in their outline. The tail is even or slightly rounded. The legs are slender and reticulated; the toes rather short; the claws weak and little curved, the interior and that on the hallux being strongest*.

The native country whence this vulture was received is unknown; when Mr. Bennet wrote his description, they had been possessed by the Zoological Society for two years, and had undergone considerable change of plumage. At first the under parts were of a brownish ash-colour; the head and neck of the same tint, with the upper parts also similar. The bill was dark horn-colour; and the naked part of the cheeks was confined to a patch above and below the eye and behind the cere. In the specimen which was then considered the adult bird, the head, neck, and entire under parts are pure white; the shoulders, part of the back, and a patch extending along the middle of each wing, brownish ash-colour; while the rest of the back, the wing-coverts, and quills, are dusky brown approaching to black. Tail white at the tip.

These birds resembled the eagles in their manners, subsisting entirely on flesh, and refusing fish if offered to them.

* Description by Mr. Bennet, in *Gardens and Menagerie of Zool. Soc.* ii. pages 303 to 306.















ARGUS GIGANTULUS,
Female.
105



GENUS ARGUS, TEMMINCK.

PHASIANUS, LATH. ET AUCTORUM.

CHAR. GEN.—Rostrum capite longius, basi nudum, rectum, compressum, integrum, apice arcuatum.

Nares laterales, oblongae, membranâ nudâ semi-clausæ. Caput collumque mediuscula plumis setosis sparse tectis. Alæ rotundatae secundariis longissimis. Cauda in duobus planis compressa, duobus plumis intermediis, longissimis. Tarsi elongati, inermes. Digihi antici ad basin membrana conjuncti. Hallux ad basin, tarso articulata.

ARGUS GIGANTEUS, TEMMINCK.

PLATES XIV. & XV. MALE AND FEMALE.

A. Facie colloque rubris, nudiusculis, plumulis setaceis sparse obsitis; vertice occipiteque nigris plumis sericeis cooperatis, corpore luteo, nigro-brunneo et ferrugineo punctato. Alis punctis ocellatis; secundariis longissimis, ad rachin ocellatis, dimidio caudæ exquantibus. Cauda compressa, rectricibus duobus intermediis longissimis.—*Mas.*

A. Facie colloque rubris, plumis setaceis obsitis, vertice, plumis rotundatis sericeis instrueto. Corpore ferrugineo, nigro luteoque notato. Alis remigibus luto ferrugineis, nigro maculatis, secundariis elongatis, nigro luteoque notatis. Cauda compressa.—*Fem.*

Argus giganteus, *Temm.* *Pig. et Gall.* II. 411, *Syn. III.* 679.

L'Argus ou Luen, *Buff.* II. p. 361.

Argus ou Luen, *Phil. Trans.* LV. p. 88.

Argus Pheasant, *Lath. Syn. IV.* 710, 3d Id. *Gen. Hist. VIII.* 306.

THE rarity of this remarkable looking bird in our collections, particularly specimens of the female sex, as well as our wish to render the present Work still more useful to the ornithologist, as illustrative of generic forms as well as of new or undescribed and unfigured species, makes it, we hope, almost unnecessary to apologize for the introduction of so interesting a subject as that of the Gigantic Argus. This we do at so early a period of a New Series, in

ARGUS GIGANTEUS.

consequence of having lately received very perfect examples of both sexes from the peninsula of Malacca, where this extraordinary fowl is found in greater plenty than in any other part of the Asiatic continent. In the natural system, it will take its place among the *Pavonideæ*, a typical family of the *Rasores*; but of its exact station in the circle of that group we can only hazard an opinion, not having yet instituted that strict analysis of its various members, required to determine the relative position of each; we consider it however likely, from the modifications of form it exhibits, and the analogical resemblances it represents, that it will constitute in its own family a tenuirostral or grallatorial type; this we are led to infer, from the comparative weakness and the length of the bill, and the proportion of the legs, which are long, and unlike those of the major part of the members of this family, unarmed or destitute of spurs. In its partially clothed head and neck, we are reminded of some of the *Cracidae*, but more particularly of that curious bird the *Alectura Lathami*, figured in a late number of the "Illustrations," and there considered as an aberrant form of the rasorial order, but which we find Mr. Swainson in his valuable volume of Dr. Lardner's *Cyclopædia*, containing the natural history and classification of birds, has placed among the *Vulturidae* (the situation at first assigned it by Dr. Latham), of which raptorial family he makes it the rasorial type or representative, thus considering it more closely allied in real affinity to the birds of prey than to the rasorial or gallinaceous birds, among which our examination of two very perfect specimens led us to place it, though we hesitate not to confess that we may possibly have mistaken relations of analogy for those of affinity, and such also may be the resemblance we have pointed out between the *Argus* and the *Alectura*. By the earlier writers the *Argus* was included in their genus *Phasianus*, but was subsequently removed by Temminck from that group, and made a generic type under what had previously been its specific designation; he is the first who appears to have described it with any degree of accuracy, the information of previous writers having been obtained from mutilated or imperfect specimens, and this he was enabled to do by a series of examples received from Batavia, where with other birds of splendid plumage it forms an article of commerce; from his pen also, we have the first authentic account of the female, which had previously remained almost unknown and undescribed, for being, as compared with her mate, a bird of plain and unobtrusive appearance, her spoils were not sought after in the East as ornaments of drapery or dress; and out of more than thirty skins which that author received, he considered himself fortunate in procuring two of the female sex. The form of the wings of the *Argus*, in which the

ARGUS GIGANTEUS.

secondaries so far exceed the primaries in length, evidently show that its power of flight must be limited, and we accordingly learn from Temminck, as well as from the gentlemen who possessed our specimens at Malacca, that they seldom fly, excepting for the purpose of perching, or when suddenly surprized; they run, however, with great swiftness, as indicated by the length of their legs, and are said to be further assisted in their course by their wings, which, if extended, must act as powerful, though we think rather unwieldy, sails. From this unwillingness to rise on wing, and their skulking habits, they are seldom shot; but our correspondent informs us that they are frequently taken by the natives by nooses and other snares set in the localities they affect. It is only when excited, or when paying court to his females, that the beauty of the male is fully displayed; upon such occasions his wings are expanded, and the ocellated spots of the secondaries are exhibited in all their rich variety and elegance, the tail at the same time is carried erect; but on ordinary occasions, or when at rest, it is carried strait, or in a line with the body, the two lengthened central plumes being folded together. We are still ignorant of its nidification and of the number of eggs and young generally produced at each hatching, as well as other particulars connected with its history. It is ascertained, however, that the young males do not acquire their adult or perfect plumage till after they have undergone several moultings, in which respect they resemble the peacock. Attempts to keep them in confinement have hitherto been unsuccessful even in their native country, where they seldom survive their capture above a few weeks; all chance, therefore, of bringing them alive to Europe to adorn our aviaries seems almost a hopeless task. Besides the peninsula of Malacca, which appears to be their chief domain, they are sparingly found in Sumatra and others of the Indian islands; but it does not appear that either China or Chinese Tartary, the great metropolis of the pheasants, and from whence the earlier authors supposed the Argus to come, can boast of it as a native. The contour of the body is of a lengthened and slender make, the bill is longer than the head, and weaker in proportion to the size of the bird than that of the pheasants or peacocks. The tarsi of the male are nearly four inches in length, without any indication of a spur; the toes are also rather long, the claws arched and impressed, showing it to possess considerable grasping power, and the hallux is articulated immediately above the basal point of the inner toe. From the true pheasants it is distinguished by its half-naked head and neck, possessed by both sexes, by its unarmed tarsi, as well as by the extraordinary elongation of the secondary quills, and the form of the tail, which is

ARGUS GIGANTEUS.

composed of two plumes, with two elongated central feathers carried folded together. In the figures already given of this magnificent bird, justice is not done to the form of the wings, the secondaries, or at least a part of them, being represented as much too short; for we find in our example, which bears every mark of an adult in perfect plumage, that two of these feathers in each wing far exceed the rest in length, reaching, when the wings are closed, nearly to the middle of the two longest caudal plumes, whereas in these figures they only appear to extend as far as the tips of the lateral tail-feathers. To describe in words with any degree of precision the various markings of the male, would be almost impossible, and we hope, from the carefully coloured plate, unnecessary to most of our readers. The female, it may be observed, is much plainer in her appearance, but she possesses the characteristics of the elongated secondaries and intermediate tail-feathers, but in a degree greatly inferior to the male, the latter only projecting about three inches beyond the tips of the others. The upper and under parts of her body are of a rich reddish brown, speckled and waved with black, except upon the lower neck and upper part of the breast, which are nearly immaculate. The greater quills are orange brown with their inner webs spotted with black, the secondary quills are brownish black, beautifully varied with spots and arabic-like characters of ochrey-yellow. The crown of the head is clothed with short rounded velvet-like feathers, with black centres and whitish margins; in the male the same part is black, and the silky feathers become a little elongated upon the nape, where they form a small recurved crest.

DIMENSIONS.—*Male.* Extreme length from tip of bill to the end of the tail, five feet four inches; of the two elongated caudal plumes, three feet five inches; of the longest secondary, four feet four inches; of the bill, one inch and a half; of the tarsus, four inches; middle toe with its claw, nearly three inches; of the hallux, one inch and one-eighth.—*Female.* Extreme length, two feet three inches; of the largest secondary, about eleven inches. Length of tarsus, three inches and one-fourth.





PERDIX FUSCA, VIEILLOT.

BROWN ROCK-PARTRIDGE.

PLATE XVI.

“ *P. corpore supra fusca, lineis maculisque albis vario; pectore medio rufo; ventre, abdomine caudaque fusco nigricentibus.*” *Vieill.*

Perdix fusca, *La perdrix brunne*, *Vieill.*, *Gall. II.* pl. cexii.

Petrogallus fuscus, *Brown Rock-Partridge*, *Gray*, *Proceed. Zool. Soc. for 1836*.

Buff-breasted Partridge? *Lath.*, *Gen. Hist. VIII.* p. 296, No. 30.

MR. GRAY had the drawing of this partridge for the accompanying plate, made from the specimens in the British Museum, which he has named and characterized in the Proceedings of the Zoological Society as the Brown Rock Partridge, *Petrogallus fuscus*.

In a new arrangement of the gallinaceous birds which this gentleman has been for some time preparing, this bird is considered as the type of a new genus (“*Petrogallus*,” Gray), and which he characterizes by “the bill rather short, rather compressed; the head crested; the tail elongate rounded; wings short; first, second, and third quills gradually longer sub-falcate; fourth, fifth, and sixth equal, longest; tarsi spurless. This group, which appears to be confined to Western Africa, represents the long-tailed, short-winged, many spurred partridges of India, as the *Perdix cruentatus* (of which *Phasianus Gardnerii*, Hardwicke, is the female), *P. Hardwickii*, *P. spadicea*, &c., and which have been formed into the genus *Plectrophorus*, Gray*.”

With the drawing, Mr. Gray also has been so obliging as to forward the following description of the bird:—“ The back and wings dark ashy-brown, minutely white dotted and waved; middle of the breast white; feathers of the crown elongate, linear, rounded at the end, brown, varied with darker towards the shafts; those of the neck being more or less varied with white; those of the forehead and throat black-brown, with a broad white margin. The tail and vent are blackish-brown, the feathers of the latter white, dotted at the tips; the quills dark ash-brown, dotted. The white edges of the feathers on the throat

* *Gray's MSS.*

PERDIX FUSCA.

gradually pass into the varied feathers of the chest, and thence into the more varied feathers of the neck and sides. Those of the lower part of the back of the neck pass into the punctated feathers of the back; those of the hinder part of the sides gradually become darker and white spotted on the rump, until they are black with a small spot on the tip. The bill and legs are scarlet, without spurs in either sex. Inhabits Western Africa and the shores of the Gambia, where it is called Rock-Partridge."

Vieillot's *Perdix fusca*, figured in his "Galerie des Oiseaux," Mr. Gray considers identical with the specimen above described. In the figure the markings are scarcely represented so minute as in our drawings, or in the bird which we made out to be Latham's buff-breasted partridge, but in other respects the distribution of them is nearly similar. These specimens were procured in Senegal by M. Riacour.

Several years since, Dr. Neill received three small partridges alive from Sierra Leone, which were kept for some months in his aviary at Canonmills. On their death, one of the specimens was kindly presented to us; but being rather imperfect in plumage from the confinement, we hesitated to give a representation from it, though at the time we made it out to correspond with the buff-breasted partridge of Latham, the synonyme above, to which we have appended a mark of doubt, having had no opportunity of comparing the birds in London with our own. The length of this specimen is about ten inches. In the general form it agrees with the characters Mr. Gray has given to his new genus, and the structure and proportion of the wings are exactly similar. On the upper parts, so far as the commencement of the rump, the feathers are dull reddish-brown, spotted with yellowish-white on the sides, and waved intermediately with blackish-brown; the secondaries, rump, and tail-coverts, are minutely and delicately waved with wood-brown and blackish-brown, the markings becoming more decided as they run higher on the body, and gradually, as Mr. Gray observes, turning into the lateral spots. On the throat, the shafts only are dark, this colour gradually broadening on the neck until the white becomes only a narrow margin; the patch on the lower part of the breast is of a yellowish-white, and the feathers on the flanks and sides are lengthened, of a clear brown, and decidedly marked on the edges with spots or small blotches of the same pale colour with the pectoral patch. Bill, tarsi, and feet, crimson.*

* This appears to be typical of the genus *Ptilopachus*, Swainson, in Lardner's Cycloedia, xcii. p. 344, and to be the *Pt. erythrorhynchus*, Swains., Birds of Western Africa, ii. p. 220. Mr. Gray's generic name will certainly have priority, and if our synonymes above are correct, Vieillot has also described it.





IBIS SPINICOLLIS, JAMESON.

LAMELLATED IBIS.

PLATE XVII.

New Holland Ibis, *Lath.* Gen. Hist. of Birds, Vol. IX. p. 163.

Ibis Australis, *Lath.* MSS. New Edit. of Ind. Ornith.

Ibis spinicollis, *Jameson*, N. Phil. Journal, No. XXXVII. p. 213.

Ibis Lathami, *Gray*, Proceed. Zool. Soc.

Ibis lamellicollis, Ibis a cou lamelleux, *Lafresnaye*, Magaz. de Zool. 1836, Liv. 4me and 5me, Pl. 57.

WE are also indebted to Mr. Gray for our illustration of this beautiful and curious Ibis. The drawing for our figure was made by Mr. Lear from specimens in the British Museum received from the interior of New Holland. The first notice of this bird we are aware of is in the General History of Birds by Dr. Latham, which we think best to transcribe from that work, valuable in itself, and in the possession of comparatively few.

“ Length from the point of the bill to the end of the tail, thirty inches. Bill six inches and three quarters, black, curved downwards, but most so from the middle to the end; from the bare coating round the eye, a broad black skin; the head and sides, taking in the jaw, deep brown; but beneath the chin and throat, neck, all beneath, thighs and tail, white; from the nape begins a narrow fillet of brown black, widening as it passes downwards, and covering the whole of the parts above, and wings; the back, in general, and wing-coverts, more or less glossed with red and purple; and most of the feathers minutely barred with narrow black lines; the scapular seems as if it were double, the upper set nearly the same as the coverts, having a black-brown tinge, and smooth at the ends and sides; the others, or longer ones, reaching almost as far as the quills, have a browner tinge, and fringed from the quill to the front edges; the quills darker than the rest; tail rounded at the end, and the wings when closed reach to about the middle of it; legs dusky black or deep brown; the bare parts above the knee minutely tassellated, and occupying the space of four inches; from the joint to the toes three inches and a half; the middle toe about the same length, the outer one shorter; at the base, between that and the middle one, a membrane; the claws of all moderate.

IBIS SPINICOLLIS.

" So far a general description of both sexes, but the male differs in several points; chin and throat bare, forming a kind of pouch, seen also in others of this genus; much less conspicuous in the other sex; sides of the neck, and from the nape on each side, rimmed with white; on the bare part of the neck, under the pouch, a series of slender stiff feathers, or rather wire-like appendages, imitating split bamboo, minutely divided, and in colour not unlike it; axillary feathers white; three or four of the inner quills have the outer webs very loose and disjoined; bare part above the knee deep red: in the bill, too, it differs from the other sex, as the sides of it, to one-fourth from the base, are transversely and irregularly indented. Inhabits New Holland; in the collection of Mr. Bullock."

Mr. Gray had dedicated this Ibis to the memory of the venerable and enthusiastic author of the above description; and in his letter to us accompanying the drawing, he adds, " I have been induced to dedicate it to my late amiable and venerable friend who brings it first to notice, rather than to call it *Ibis Australis*, by which name he had designated it in the MSS. of the second edition of the *Index Ornithologicus*, on which he was engaged at the time of his death, and in which, extraordinary to say, when we consider his great age (ninety-six), he had attempted to include all the birds published since the printing of his voluminous History, and to correct the various names which had before escaped him."

Nearly about the same time with the arrival of specimens of this bird in London, it appears to have been sent to the collections on the continent and to that of Edinburgh; and the bird described in the New Philosophical Journal under the title of *Ibis spinicollis*, seems referable to this species; it was received from the " banks of the Murray River, interior of New Holland." The only difference from our drawing is in it being found that the " legs are of a blood-red colour." The colour of the legs is borne out by the description of Lafresnaye, the only naturalist who has given a reduced figure.*

We have preserved Professor Jameson's name, as being published prior to that of Mr. Gray, and would propose commemorating the labours of our venerable ornithologist by dedicating to him some birds, entirely new, and to which a range of synomyms cannot be applied.

The most curious character in this bird consists in the lamellated form of the feathers on the fore part of the neck and breast, resembling those of the *Anastomus lamelligerus* in the other parts of the form. So far as we can judge from our drawing, the bird is perfectly typical.

* We have since seen the specimen in the Edinburgh Museum, and refer it unhesitatingly as identical with our drawing. The legs are deep blood-red.





CRYPTICUS SUPERCILIARIS.

1838.

PRIONITES (CRYPTICUS) SUPERCILIARIS, SANDBACH.

AZURE-BROWED CAMPEACHY MOTMOT.

PLATE XVIII.

N. S.

M. Rufescente-viridis, superciliis notisque colli late azureis, striga per oculos juguloque nigris, dorsi medio ventroque castaneis. Remigibus externis pogonii virescente-cœruleis, apicibus nigris, cauda virescente-cœrulea, duobus mediis rectricibus longissimis, rachibus medio denudatis, apicibus spatulatiformibus nigro terminatis.

WE procured this new and beautiful species at Liverpool, during the meeting of the British Association for the promotion of Science, in September 1837: to which great mart it had been brought a short time before, from the Bay of Campeachy where it has only yet been discovered, and where, as it would appear from the number of skins (upwards of twenty) imported by the vessel, that it is far from being rare. At one of the meetings of the Zoological Section, it was introduced to notice by Mr. Sandbach, the zealous curator of the Museum belonging to the Royal Institution, and from him received the very appropriate specific name of "*Superciliaris*," the broad and distinct streak of azure blue above the eyes being a feature which at first sight arrests the attention of the observer. The present species is nearly allied to one we have previously figured and described under the title of *M. platyrynchus*, with which it must be associated; but whether, as Mr. Swainson thinks, they are entitled to be generically separated from the Motmots proper, or only to rank as a sub-genus in that group, we have not quite determined. The bill, as in *M. platyrynchus*, is broad and depressed at the base, though not to the same extent, but the width is still considerably greater than the depth, the contrary of which is the case with the true Motmots; the denticulations on the cutting margins are also very fine and minute, and the culmen, instead of

AZURE-BROWED CAMPEACHY MOTMOT.

being furrowed as in *M. platyrhynchos*, is slightly elevated and convex, with a small groove on each side near the base. In looking to the analogies and affinities of these species, they appear to be forms tending to unite the *Trogonidae*, of which family of the *Fissirostres* the Motmots form a part, with the *Meropidae* and the *Halcyonidae*, through the genera *Nyctiornis* and *Coracias* in the first and *Lamprotila* (Swains.) in the latter. In the present species this resemblance or approach to the *Meropidae* is also exhibited in the colour of the wings and tail, which bear a large proportion of beautiful steel blue, which is seen in many of the *Meropidae*, in which also we find the tail and secondary quill-feathers terminated with black, as in the present instance.

Our figure is somewhat under the natural size, the general length of those we have measured being about thirteen inches and a half from the tip of the bill to the end of the two elongated tail-feathers; of this the tail alone occupies about eight inches and a half. The bill from the forehead is about an inch and a half long, broad and depressed at the base, gently arched to the tip, which is entire and projects beyond the lower mandible. The culmen is rounded and a little elevated; the margins of both mandibles are finely denticulated, and the under one in its profile follows the curve of the upper. The nostrils are small and round, placed on each side, near the base of the bill.

The prevailing colour of the upper part of the body is a deep but bright olive-green, darkest upon the crown, wing-coverts and scapulars; on the middle of the back it is deeply tinged with reddish brown. Above each eye is a broad streak of pale azure-blue, and several narrow feathers of the same colour are distributed upon the chin and on each side of the black patch which occupies the under side of the neck. The space between the bill and the eyes is black, the hinder angles of the eyes reddish-brown, the sides of the neck and breast are a mixture of red and green, the feathers being red at the base and passing into green towards their tips; the abdomen and vent are reddish brown. The quills are black, with the exterior webs of a fine azure blue, in some lights exhibiting a greenish reflection; the secondaries have their ends black. The tail is graduated, of a fine azure-blue, each feather terminated by a black bar. The two centre feathers are full four inches longer than the rest, the shafts naked, from where they extend beyond the other feathers to within about two inches of their whole length, the ends being broad and spathulate from the elongation of the webs, and each is terminated by a broad bar of black. The legs are short; the exterior and middle toes united for two-thirds of their length, the inner toe short but a little longer than the hallux; the claws black, rather long and sharp.

PLATE XI.

W.C.



could do

deliberately.



SCYTALOPUS ALBOGULARIS.

1876



1. SCYTALOPUS FUSCUS. 2. S. ALBOGULARIS, GOULD.

1. DUSKY; 2. WHITE-THROATED SCYTALOPUS.

PLATES XIX. XX.

N. S.

1. *S. fuscus*.—Corpore toto nigrocente.
2. *S. albogularis*.—Supra brunneus nigro fasciatus; gula, pectore abdomineque medio albis, hypochondriis ferrugineis nigro fasciatis.

Scytalopus fuscus, *Gould* in Proc. of Zool. Soc. Part IV. 1837, p. 89.
— *albogularis*, *ibid.*

WE are indebted to the kindness of Mr. Gould for being enabled to give representations of two very curious and interesting birds. That gentleman, during the last summer, left with us the very spirited sketches which have been made use of for our figures, with his manuscript notes taken from the specimens. The latter we give as the valuable opinions of a good practical ornithologist, and of one who enjoys excellent opportunities of seeing every modification of form; and having since received a specimen of the first species, and compared it with a bird in our own collection, which is either a third species of this little genus, or the female or young of *S. fuscus*, we can now hint at the conclusion to which an extended examination of all the birds themselves might probably bring us.

The birds forming Mr. Gould's genus approach very nearly in structure to the characters which Mr. Swainson has given for his genus *Platyurus*, also a South American form, and into which the *Troglodytes paradoxus* of Kittlitz (very like *Scytalopus*) is admitted as an aberrant member. For the present we retain Mr. Gould's genus, not having examined a typical specimen of *Platyurus*; but if distinct, they will immediately succeed each other, and will range in the same division with the true wrens. A marked character in *Scytalopus* is the peculiar scaling of the back part of the tarsus, divided into numerous plates wrapped as it were round the leg, and whence has been taken the generic name above applied to them. So far as their habits are known, they seem to agree or come near to those of the wrens (*Troglodytes*). They are described as constantly in motion, much on the ground, and climbing about the low brush

SCYTALOPUS FUSCUS AND ALBOGULARIS.

and grass, jerking with their tails as Mr. Gould has represented them, and which is confirmed by the attitude chosen by M. Kittlitz.

Mr. Gould, in remarking on the distinctions which entitle his genus to separation, says, "The general contour of form is that of *Troglodytes*, from which it differs in possessing a shorter, stouter, and less acutely pointed bill, with an upward inclination, instead of being gently incurved as in *Troglodytes*; the tail is even shorter than in that genus, and, consisting of decomposed feathers, the whole has a ragged and disunited appearance; and, lastly, the tarsi have their posterior aspect regularly banded with narrow scales, instead of having one or two continuous laminae on that part."

GENUS SCYTALOPUS, GOULD.

GEN. CHAR.—"Bill shorter than the head, compressed, rather blunt, and slightly recurved. Nostrils basal, covered with a membrane. Wings very feeble, very concave, very short, and rounded; first quill abbreviated; the third, fourth, fifth, and sixth of equal length. Tail very short, very graduated (the outer feathers being extremely small), and consisting of decomposed feathers. Tarsi long and stout, the fore part covered with large scutellæ, the hind part bound round with narrow scales like the abdominal scales of snakes. Hind toe long and rather stout, claw long; middle toe long and slender, and with the other two fore toes furnished with fine nails."—GOULD.

1. *SCYTALOPUS FUSCUS*, *Gould*.—"All the plumage of a uniform sooty black, the head in some specimens having each feather margined with beautiful silvery grey; bill black; feet brown. Total length, two inches and three-quarters; bill, half an inch; wing, an inch and seven-eighths; tail, an inch and a quarter; tarsi, seven-eighths." Habitat, Straits of Magellan, Chili, &c.

2. *SCYTALOPUS ALBOGULARIS*, *Gould*.—"Crown of the head bluish-black; shoulders and back ferruginous brown, obscurely marked with narrow transverse lines of black, which bound the edge of each feather; tail uniform, pale, rufous brown; throat, chest, and middle of the belly, white; sides of the chest, flanks, and under tail-coverts, light ferruginous, barred with black; upper mandible dark umber brown; under mandible and feet brown. Total length, three inches and three-quarters; bill, five-eighths of an inch; wing, an inch and three-quarters; tail, an inch and a half; tarsi, three-quarters of an inch." Habitat, Brazil.

The third species which we possess was purchased from Mr. Carfrae of Edinburgh, but the locality was not known; we propose for it the title of *Scytalopus undulatus*.

LATICRUCIA SUTICULATA.



IANTHOCINCLA RUFICOLLIS, JARD. & SELBY.

RUFOUS-NECKED IANTHOCINCLA.

PLATE XXI.

N. S.

I. Fronte, genis, auriculis, gula, superiore pectoris, nigris, capite, superiore colli griseis, lateribus colli, crissaque rufis, colore colli macula curvata extende ad gulam—corpore alisque olivaceo—griseis remegibus, marginibus griseis, cauda nigrescente.

IN a previous number we gave an illustration of a typical species of Mr. Gould's genus, *Ianthocincla*, and we are now induced to represent another, which appears to be hitherto undescribed. We picked it out of a small collection of Himalayan birds, received by Mr. Carfrae of Edinburgh, but with the exception of the wide habitat which was assigned to them, we know nothing of its precise locality. Mr. Gould considers that all the specimens of this group, which we suspect will turn out to be pretty extensive, have a terminal band of a pale tint on the tail. In our present bird, and one or two others which we know, this is wanting. The colour is uniform, generally becoming slightly darker towards the tip; and in some, this member, with the secondaries, has the indistinct barring only seen in particular lights, which we find both among the *Crateropi** and in *Donacobius*.

The colours of this bird are unobtrusive but harmoniously blended. The upper parts, with the wings and belly, are of a dull greyish oil-green, which on the back of the neck and crown shades into grey. The forehead, cheeks, auriculars, throat, and upper part of the breast, are black; and between the colour of the upper parts and the black shading into the former, there is a

* Mr. Swainson includes the *Ianthocincla* of Mr Gould among his *Crateropi*.

IANTHOCINCLA RUFICOLLIS.

patch of rich rufous chestnut, which inclines in a crescent form towards the throat. The under tail-coverts and vent are of the same colour, and slight or narrow indications of it sometimes runs up the centre of the belly. The quills are of a pale grey on the outer webs, showing the same distribution of colour as that shown in the bird represented, Plate IV.

The tail is deep brownish-black, darkening towards the extremity, and without any terminal band. The total length of our specimen is about nine inches and three-quarters.



MAURONYX FLAVIGASTER

1876

GENUS MACRONYX, SWAINSON.

GEN. CHAR.—Rostrum mediocre, compressum, leviter emarginatum, rectum, culmine convexo. Nares nudæ, basales, magnæ. Alæ breves, quatuor primis remigibus ferè æqualibus, longissimis. Cauda mediocris, æqualis. Pedes permagnæ. Tarsi elongati, digiti laterales, æquales. Hallux prælonga, unque leviter arcuato longissimus.

MACRONYX FLAVIGASTER, SWAINSON.

YELLOW-BELLIED LONG-CLAW.

PLATE XXII.

N. S.

M. Corpore supra fusco, nigro-brunneo maculato, infra luteo flavo, torque pectorali nigro, superciliis flavis. Pedibus magnis, unque digiti posterioris ricta, longissima.

Macronyx flavigaster, *Swains.* Nat. Lib. Vol. VII. p. 215.

THE genus *Macronyx* was first instituted by Mr. Swainson for the reception of the Sentinel Lark of Le Vaillant, and until lately that bird was the only recognized example of this peculiar form of the alaudine group: the first intimation we have of a second species, being the description of the "Yellow-bellied or Senegal Long-claw," contained in the seventh volume of the Naturalist's Library; but as that description is unaccompanied by a figure, we have, in accordance with the professed object of the present work, given a representation of it, not only as being a handsome and recently discovered species, but as an interesting generic form among the larks. *Macronyx*, as a genus, is separated from the other groups of larks, by well defined and tangible characters, among which may be particularized the roundness and shortness of the wings, the first four quill-feathers being nearly equal in length,

MACRONYX FLAVIGASTER.

and when closed only reaching to the commencement or root of the tail, and also by the length of the tarsus and enormous size of the feet. According to Mr. Swainson's views, the *Long-claws* form the rasorial group of the sub-family *Alaudinæ*, belonging to the family *Fringillidæ* of the conirostral tribe; and as he justly observes, their enormous feet remind one of their prototypes in different tribes and families, *Megapodius*, *Menura*, *Rallus*, &c., and other great-footed representatives of the rasorial order. Another beautiful analogy may be traced between these birds and the genus *Sturnella*, represented by the American meadow-lark of Wilson, a bird belonging to the sub-family *Aglainæ* among the *Sturnidæ*, and which occupies a parallel situation with *Macronyx* in its own group. The present species is a native of Senegal in Western Africa, from whence Mr. Swainson had his specimens; our own were procured at Liverpool and selected from a large assortment of African skins; its congener, the *Macronyx Capensis*, or Sentinel Long-claw, is on the contrary, according to Le Vaillant, found in the district of the Cape, extending to Caffraria on the east, and on the west not passing Elephant river.

In size and general form the two species bear a strong resemblance to each other; the legs and feet, however, of the yellow-bellied species are even larger and more disproportionate than those of the other, the hinder toe with its claw being nearly an inch and a half in length. The bill is also stronger than that of *M. Capensis*, and the culmen more arched towards the tip, which bears a distinct emargination, and the *rictus* or gape is furnished with several stiff projecting bristles reaching one-half the length of the bill, and which in *M. Capensis* are short and sometimes almost rudimentary. Of its peculiar habits we have no direct information, but judging from its resemblance to *M. Capensis*, we cannot greatly err in supposing them closely assimilated to that species which frequents meadows, banks of rivers, and the sandy plains at the base of Tiger Mountain. The great developement of the feet, and the long slightly arched claws*, proclaim it a bird that naturally affects and lives much upon the ground, where we can suppose it to move with ease and probably with great rapidity, while the arched form of the bill, as well as the distinct setæ which environ the gape, seemingly point to it as more insectivorous than its congener, or at least the enemy and devourer of a different tribe of insects.

The crown of the head and upper parts of the body are of a deep umber-brown, each feather margined with pale brown and brownish grey; on

* Le Vaill. Ois. d'Afrique, iv. p. 133.

MACRONYX FLAVIGASTER.

the nape and sides of the neck it is paler, and below the ear-coverts and bordering the black gorget it is nearly pure white. Above each eye is a streak of bright yellow, which colour occupies the whole of the under parts, with the exception of the black pectoral gorget which commences by a line from each side of the gape and a few dark brown streaks upon the hypochondriae. The margin of the shoulders is also bright yellow, and the greater quills are finely margined with the same colour. The tail is brown, the two exterior feathers on each side one-half white, the third with a smaller portion of that colour, and the fourth with a small spot only of white at the tip of the inner web. The legs are yellowish brown, the tarsi one inch and a quarter long, and the distance from the tip of the claw of the middle toe to that of the hallux, the foot being expanded, is two inches and three-quarters.





PLATE XXI.

ANAS RAFFLESII, KING.

MAGELLANIC BLUE-WINGED TEAL.

PLATE XXIII.

N. S.

“ *A. castaneo-rufa, capite abdomineque medio saturationibus; notis dorsi, remigibus, cauda supra, crissoque nigris; ptilis cœruleis, pteromatibus albis, speculo alarum viridi.* ” *Zool. Journ.*—Rostro nigro, mandibula apice dilata, pedibus rubris.

Anas Rafflesii, King, Zool. Journ. No. XIII. July 1828, p. 97. Tab. Supp. XXIX.

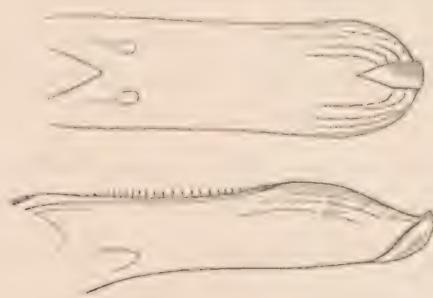
AT the time when this very beautiful duck was described and figured in the Zoological Journal, with many other interesting birds sent home from the expedition of Captain King, very few specimens existed in our collections; since that time, however, it appears to have been more frequently brought home. We have had opportunities of examining several specimens, and for that from which our present figure is taken, we are indebted to Mr. Carfrae, animal-preserved in Edinburgh, who procured the skin in a small collection said to be from South America.

Besides its interest as a very beautiful species, it is curious from the alliance of the distribution of its colours with the shovellers, and for a slight dilatation of the bill near the tip, where it becomes so developed in these birds and in *Malacorhynchus*. On the other side the markings of the American *A. discors* somewhat resembles our bird, which will stand as one of the points of union between the shovellers and ducks, and in the latter we would now place it.

In the specimen before us, there is no great variation from the description of the bird in the Zoological Journal. The head, neck, breast, and lower parts of the body are of a very deep and dull uniform chestnut red, darker on the

ANAS RAFFLESII.

crown and towards the nape, and there nearly black, with a greenish reflection; the crissum and under tail-coverts deep black. The centre of the back brownish black, each feather edged and with an inner ring of pale reddish chestnut, the shorter scapulars more distinctly marked, and sometimes assuming the form of uninterrupted bars across; the lower back and tail dull brownish black, the feathers having a very narrow pale edging. The scapular feathers, which are so often such conspicuous and beautiful marks in many of the ducks are here lengthened, so as to hang over the quills when the wings are closed. The upper ones have a stripe of pale yellowish chestnut running along the centre and occupying the whole of the narrow tips, bordered on the other part of the feathers with dark greenish black. On the lower plumes, the colour consists of three tints, the pale central stripe confined however to the upper half of the feather and there bordered with its deep dark margin, while the lower web of the feather is of the beautiful and chaste greyish blue peculiar to some of the teals and to the shovellers. The whole shoulders or ptilia are of the same tint, the feathers of which lie over and in some positions almost conceal a white bar across the wing formed by the tips of the lesser coverts. The greater coverts are uniformly of the brilliant green which marks the *speculum* in the ducks, and are without any pale edge or tip. The quills are brownish black, and reach to within half an inch of the tip of the tail. Under wing-coverts white. Bill deep bluish black, the nail paler; the lamellæ seen from without, and the edges dilating as in the annexed wood-cut. The feet and legs orange-red. Length rather more than fifteen inches.







FALCO AUSTRALIS.

IRAN

FALCO AUSTRALIS, GRAY.

STAATEN LAND FALCON.

PLATE XXIV.

N. S.

THE drawing for the plate which accompanies this description was made nearly two years since by Mr. Lear, from specimens in the British Museum, which Mr. Gray obligingly pointed out to him, and we now publish the figure as that of a bird of much interest. Mr. Gray has also furnished us with the description of the specimen whence the drawing was taken, together with an outline of the division of the *Falconidae*, to which he considers it will belong; and these we also give upon his authority. The generic title, we must confess, we do not like; but we do not wish to make any change unknown to the author. We suspect the division will not ultimately stand, or rather, perhaps, it will be associated with some of the others, and thus make the typical form. It is a form which appears to have puzzled Ornithologists, and the proper station which it should occupy is scarcely yet determined: by some it has been noted as a *Polyborus*, and by M. Temminck, Lesson and Garnot, as a *Caracara*. There is, however, a considerable resemblance in the general form to the True Falcons; and Dr. Forster informed Dr. Latham, "That the manners are entirely those of the Falcon*;" but while we trace this in the general figure of the bird, the form of the nostrils and its lengthened wings, and fancy its disposition from the upright attitude it is said to carry, we see the marks of a less typical group in the weak and slightly hooked claws, and in the straight outline of the cutting edges of the bill entirely deprived of any tooth or sinuation. There is considerable variation also in the plumage of the adult and young birds; that of the latter being nearly of a uniform brown tint, and our figure

* General Hist. I. p. 161.

FALCO AUSTRALIS.

exhibits the clothing of mature species. In the *Planches Coloriées*, the base of the bill and space between and the eyes are represented as too sparingly covered with feathers, and the tarsi are drawn much too short. While some other writers, again, appear to have confounded a New Holland *Polyborus* with this bird; it is true that they are nearly allied, for a species purchased many years since from a collection, the locality of which we could not doubt, very closely resembles the plumage of the young birds, but is at once distinguished by the shorter tarsi, the hairy lores and cere, and the curved and linear form of the nostrils. The species we are now describing was originally brought from New Zealand, and named from that country by Dr. Latham. The range is, however, more extended, most probably stretching over a considerable portion of the Australian territory. Temminck mentions having received specimens from Van Diemen's Land, the Falkland and Moldivian Islands; and states also, that some of the late French expeditions met with it in the New World under a latitude nearly parallel with that of Van Diemen's Land. Mr. Gray's observations are as follows:—

“ STAATEN LAND FALCON.—*Senex Australis*, GRAY.—Nigro-fuscus; plumis colli pectoris et subtus, striâ flavescens lanceolatâ; femoribus rufis; caudâ apice alba; cera pedibusque flavis; Jun. nigro-fuscus; plumis colli apice, remigibus basi, rectricibusque concoloribus, pallidè rufis.

“ *Falco Australis*, Lath. Ind. 1. 16.—*Falco leucurus*, Forst. Dr. no. (edit.)—New Zealand Falcon, Lath. syn. 1. t. 14.—*Hist. 1. t. 9.*—*Falco novæ Zealandiæ*, Temm. non Lath. Pl. Col. 192, 224.”

This present bird has been referred to several genera; thus Cuvier in his first edition placed it, with a doubt, with *Morphnus*, in his second with *Circæetus*, whilst Temminck considers it a *Caracara*. Mr. J. E. Gray is induced to separate it from any of these genera, and form a distinct division under the name of *Senex*; the character of which will be best shown by the following outline of the sub-genera, which the Cuvierian genus *Polyborus* has been divided into by various writers.

“ POLYBORINA.

“ (a) Nostrils large, exposed, and somewhat rounded.

“ *DAPTRIUS*, Vieill. *GYMNOPS*. Spix. Cere hairy; orbits, throat and croup naked; tail short, and square at the end. *D. ater*, Vieill.

“ *IBYCTER*, Vieill. *GYMNOPS*. Spix. Cere smooth; cheeks, throat and croup naked; tail long, and rounded at the end. *I. aquilinus*.

FALCO AUSTRALIS.

“ (b) Nostrils round, with an elevated osseous knob in the middle.

“ *MILVAGO*, *Spix*.—Small sized, with the bill short, culmen rounded, and much curved from the cere to the tip; commissure nearly straight. *M. chima-chima*, Vieill.

“ *SENEX*, *Gray*.—Like the former, but of a larger size, with the bill longer, and the culmen less elevated, but rounded. *S. Australis*, Gray.

“ *PHASCOBÆNUS*, *Orb*.—Bill elongated, compressed on the sides; culmen slightly elevated, and very little curved from the cere to the tip. *P. montanus*, Orb.

“ My brother proposed to place the genus *Senex* and its allies with the Noble Falcons, as they have the same formed nostrils; and he now considers that it shows at least an affinity to the birds of that group.

“ (c) Nostrils large in an oblique line, rather curved in the middle.

“ *POLYBORUS*, *Vieill*.—Bill large, much compressed on the sides; culmen and cere much elevated, cere hairy.

“ *P. Brasiliensis*, *Sw*.”





AGLAIA CHILensis.

1856.

AGLAIA CHILENSIS, VIGORS.

CHILIAN AGLAIA.

PLATE XXV.

N. S.

“ *A. sericeo-ater* ; capite genisque flavo-viridibus, colore genarum in latera colli angulariter extendente ; pectore abdomineque beryllinis ; dorso medio imoque flammeo coccineis.”—VIGORS.

Aglaiā Chilensis, *Vigors*, Proceed. Zool. Soc. Lond. 1832, page 3.—*Tanagra Yeni*, *d'Orbigny*, Voyage, &c., Oiseaux, pl. xxiv. fig. 2.—*Synopsis avium*, *Guerin Magazin de Zoologie*, ii. Liv. 7mo. annee. page 31.

WE procured in Liverpool, during the meeting of the British Association in 1837, the specimen from which our accompanying figure and description are taken ; and examination and comparison of it with the figure of the Paradise Tanager, and specimens of the same in the Edinburgh Museum, have induced us to think that Mr. Vigors has been right in separating the Chilian birds from those of Guiana ; at all events, the present state or variety of this bird, if it should prove only the latter, has been yet unfigured except on the plate of *d'Orbigny*, which we have quoted above, and which, (without the description,) seems to belong to that we now represent. Mr. Vigors considers that this bird differs from the paradise Tanager by the uniform flame colour of the middle and lower parts of the back, and the light green feathers on the cheeks extending more angularly into the black on each side. He is of opinion, also, that the distance of their locality authorised the separation of the Chilian birds which were in Mr. Cumming's collection from specimens of Guiana and Cayenne ; and that, on the contrary, he had never obtained birds from the Eastern coast which did not agree with the paradise Tanager, as figured by Edwards, Buffon, and Desmarest.

AGLAIA CHILENSIS.

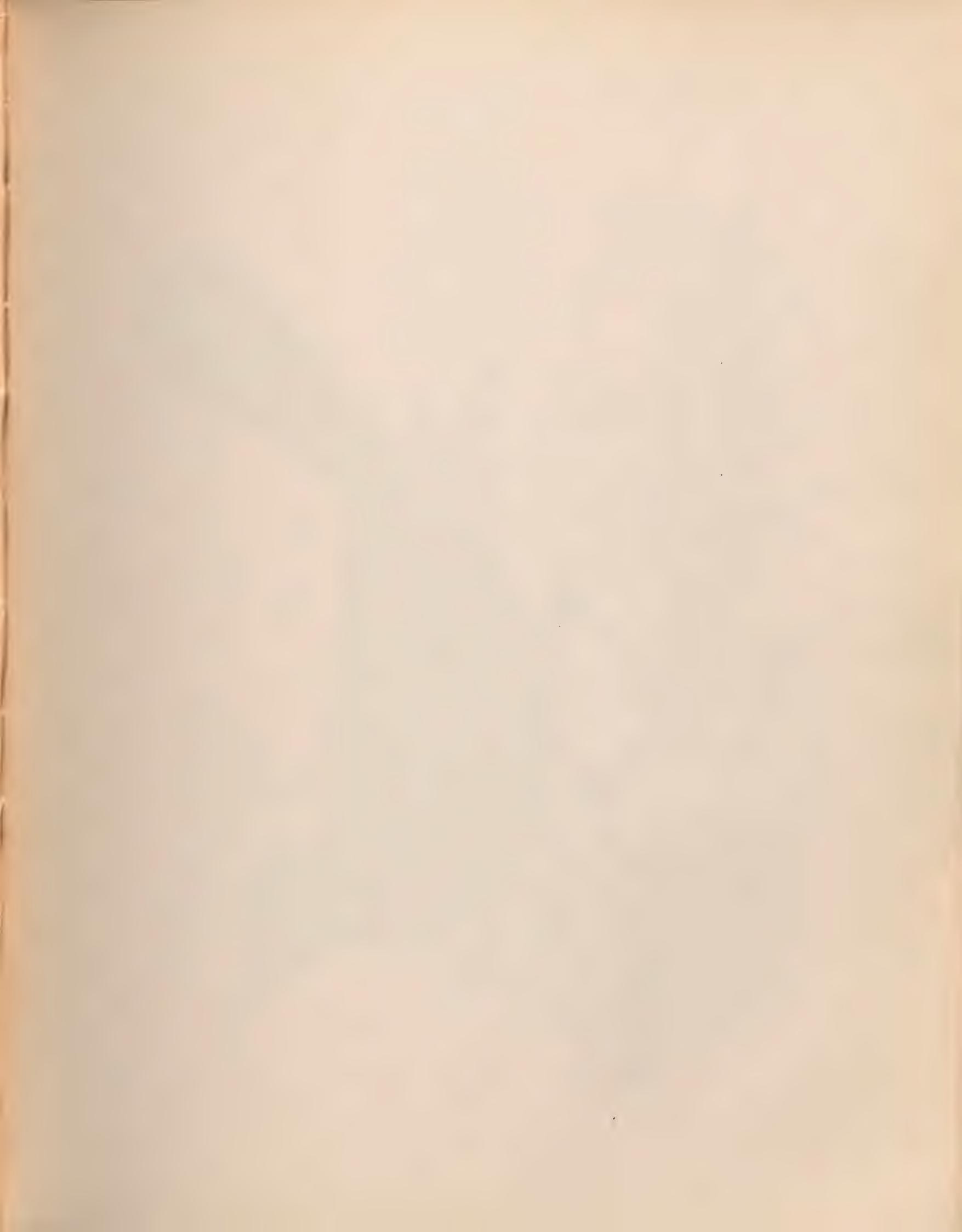
The synonyms of the Chilian bird are:—

A. Chilensis, Vigors' Proceed. of Zool. Soc. for 1832, p. 2.
Tanagra Yeni, d'Orbigny, Voyage dans l'Amerique Meridionales Oiseaux pl. 24, fig. 2.—Also
Guerin in Mag. de Zool. 11 liv. 7mo. avium p. 31.

Synonyms of the Guiana and Cayenne bird are:—

Titmouse of Paradise, Edw. Gleanings, iii. p. 349.
Tanagra tatao, Linn. and Lath. Ind. Ornith.
Tangara, Buff. Pl. Enl. 7. fig. 1. The tail supplied from some other bird.
Tangara du Bresil, Buff. Pl. Enl. 127.
Paradise tanager, Lath. Gen. Hist. vi. p. 26.
Tangara septicolore, Dict. Class. d'Hist. Nat. xvi. p. 36.

Our specimen may be described as follows:—Bill black, typical in form. Forehead brown, cheeks and ear-coverts clothed with scale-like feathers of a delicate yellow-green; behind the ears these feathers run in an angular form into the black of the neck. Chin and throat purple; breast, sides, and part of the smaller wing-coverts, of a beautiful blue, approaching nearest in tint to verditer-blue, but in some lights showing a greenish reflection. Middle of the abdomen black. Nape, sides of neck, mantle, scapulars, and middle wing-coverts, of a rich velvety-black; lower back and rump of a bright flame-coloured red and of the same depth of tint, not fading on the edges and rump into orange-red as in the Paradise Tanager. Wings and tail black; legs and feet pale yellow. Length upwards of five inches.





T. R. M. S. Psaltriparus. 1860.

GENUS PSAROPHOLUS, JARD. & SELBY.

CHAR. GEN.—*Rostrum, apice compresso, culmine tomiisque leviter arcuatis; naribus linearibus in corneo sitis, plumis frontis ad basin inclinantibus. Alæ, remige 1o. dimidio longissimi æquantis, 4to. 5to. longissimis æqualibus. Pedes, breviusculi, sub fortes.*—*Pastor Traillii*, Gould.



PSAROPHOLUS TRAILLII, JARD. & SELBY.

DR. TRAIL'S MOUNTAIN STARLING.

PLATE XXVI.

N. S.

Mas.—P. capite, collo, superiore pectoris, aliisque nigris, corpore caudaque purpureo-rubris.

Fem.—P. capite, collo superiore pectoris, aliisque nigris, dorso brunnescente, uropigio caudaque purpureo-rubris, pectore abdomineque albescentibus brunneo latè striatis.

Pastor Traillii.—*Gould*, Birds of Himalaya, Pl. XXXV. M. F.

WHEN we first saw Mr. Gould's figure of this interesting bird, we felt a doubt of its being a true *Pastor*; but the specimen in the Museum of the Liverpool Institution being then the only one known, we abstained from making any observations without having an opportunity of examining it. This we have been enabled to do by the attention of Mr. Hodgson, political resident in

PSAROPHOLUS TRAILLII.

Nipaul, who has forwarded to us a collection of most interesting birds from that country, a great part of which are yet undescribed. These new species we cannot notice without Mr. Hodgson's sanction, and more especially as that gentleman is actively preparing materials for the Zoology of Nipaul; with the present bird however, previously figured, we have not the same reason for withholding our remarks, and have used Mr. Hodgson's specimens to make our drawings and descriptions from.

Of the habits of this bird we know nothing. In its form it varies much from *Pastor*, particularly in the structure of the nostrils, bill, and wings. The bill is very slightly compressed towards the tip, and widens towards the base; it bends gently and regularly, is entire and without a notch or an angle on its cutting edges. The nostrils are basal, and are almost like a narrow slit cut in the substance of the bill, the covering being marked, but of equal strength; on the base of the culmen it is rounded, and enters among the feathers of the forehead, which also reach forward on the nostrils. This structure reminds us both of *Lomprotornis* and the *Icterinae*, while the large nostril and notched bill of *Pastor* are at much variance. In the structure of the wing, our genus has the first quill equalling the longest nearly by one half, while in *Pastor* it is nearly spurious. The plumage is generally stiff and silky, and in the distribution of its colours also reminds us of the *Icterinae*; on the rump and lower back it is very ample. The tarsi and feet are rather short, not formed for walking; the claws are rather strong and hooked.

The male is in length about ten inches and a quarter; the bill is of a greenish-yellow; the head, neck, and upper part of the breast and wings are deep shining black; all the other parts are of a deep and rich purplish-red, or "Maroon" colour, paler on the tail, which has the outer feather edged with black on its exterior edge; the base or root of all the plumage is white, which occasionally appearing gives an additional richness. In the female, the distribution of the colours is more akin to that of the *Orioles*. The head, neck, and wings are dull black; the back is brown, slightly tinged with reddish, and the rump and tail exhibit a dull shade of the purplish-red adorning the male; the breast and under parts are whitish, tinted with reddish on the flanks and under tail-covers, and having each feather broadly marked longitudinally with brown. There is little difference in size between the sexes.



CHALCOMITRUS CYANOPHRYSS. GRAY.
1878.

MALACONOTUS SABINII.

SABINE'S PUFF-BACK SHRIKE.

PLATE XXVII.

N. S.

"*Chaunonotus supra coerulecente niger ; dorsi plumis floccosis mollissimis et subtus albis.*"—*Gray.*

Thomnophilus Sabinii, *Gray*, *Zool. Miscel.* i. p. 7.—*Chaunonotus Sabinii*, *Gray*, *Mag. of Nat. Hist.*
N. S. No. 18, p. 487.

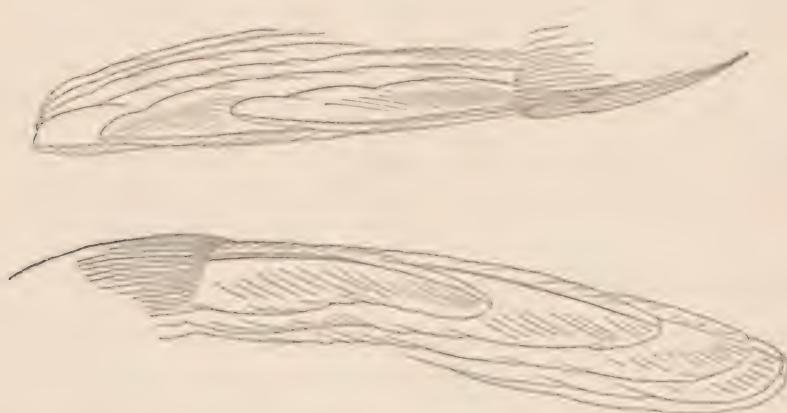


WE are indebted to Mr. G. H. Gray for the drawing of the above-named interesting bird, and the description which immediately follows. In the 18th Number of the Magazine of Natural History, that gentleman formed a new genus from the present bird and the *L. cubla* of Le Vaillant, taking the *L. cubla* of authors for the types. This we feel rather inclined to adopt; for if we examine the species which are at present included in the genus *Malacorotus*, we shall find a considerable variation of form; and the different proportion of the wings, the very remarkable structure and developement of the feathers on the lower part of the back, together with the gregarious habits of the birds, seem sufficiently important characters to warrant their separation at least into a subgenus, and more particularly as a second species is now definitively ascertained. We propose to take *M. barbarus* and *atrococcineus* as typical of *Malacorotus*, birds of very brilliant plumage, and blending gradually into some of less obtrusive tints, by the nearly equally splendid birds from which Vieillot formed his genus *Laniarius*. These, however, with the *M. olivacus* and *chrysogaster*

NOTE.—The name of the above Plate has been by mistake engraved *Chaunonotus* instead of *Malacorotus*.

MALACONOTUS SABINII.

of Swainson, we would still continue where the last named Ornithologist has placed them. We here give wood-cuts of the outline of the bill, and the proportions of the quills of *M. barbarus* and *cubla*, so that the difference in the form of these parts may be at once perceived.



The South African species is gregarious, living in small troops, except during the season of incubation. Le Vaillant thus describes their manners:—"On trouve ces oiseaux réunis en petites troupes de dix ou sept individus, composées de toute la famille; ils ne séparent jamais les uns des autres, et prennent tous part aux petits accidens ainsi qu'aux plaisirs qui surviennent à l'un deux. Ils vivent ensemble dans la meilleure intelligence, et lorsqu'il arrive à quelqu'un de la troupe de découvrir in nichée de chenilles, dont ils sont très friands, il appelle, par un cri, tous les autres pour leur faire part de sa découverte. En un instant, toute cette petite troupe d'êtres toujour agissants ont visité tous les branches d'un très-gros arbre, dont ils enlèvent très-bien, avec leur bec, le parties d'écorce, pour mettre à découvert les larves, les chrysalides et les insectes qui l'y réfugient, et dont ils se nourrissent*."

Mr. Gray has sent us with his drawing the following description:—"This bird bears a resemblance to the *Cubla*† of Le Vaillant, except that the bill is larger, broader at the base, and the culmen is broad, smooth, and rounded, with the base of the latter projecting on the forehead, and the feathers on each side advancing to the nostrils. These characters give it a great approximation to the species of the Australian genus *Craticus* of Vieillot (the *Vanga* of

* Le Vail. Ois. d'Afrique, ii. p. 89.

† *Lanius cubla*, *Shaw*.—*Dryosecopus cubla*, *Boie*. My genus *Hapelophus* is synonymous to the latter.—*Gray*.

MALACONOTUS SABINII.

Gould, Swainson, &c.), and might be considered an intermediate link between the *Laniarii* and that genus.

"The general colour of this species is very like the *Cubla*, except that it possesses a great gloss of blue on the back, and neither the wing-coverts nor the tail-feathers are margined with white. When young, both colours are tinged with sepia brown, as is shown in the back figure; and in the adult state, this species has a greater quantity of down on the back than in any of the other known species, the purpose of which, in the economy of the bird, has never been stated by writers. The specimens were brought from Sierra Leone by Captain Sabine, R. A., after whom they have been named. The total length of the bird is 8 inches; the bill and tarsi 11 lines; the wing 3 inches."



PSARIS ROSEICOLLIS.

1858.

PSARIS ROSEICOLLIS, D'ORBIGNY?

GORGET PSARIS.

PLATE XXVIII.

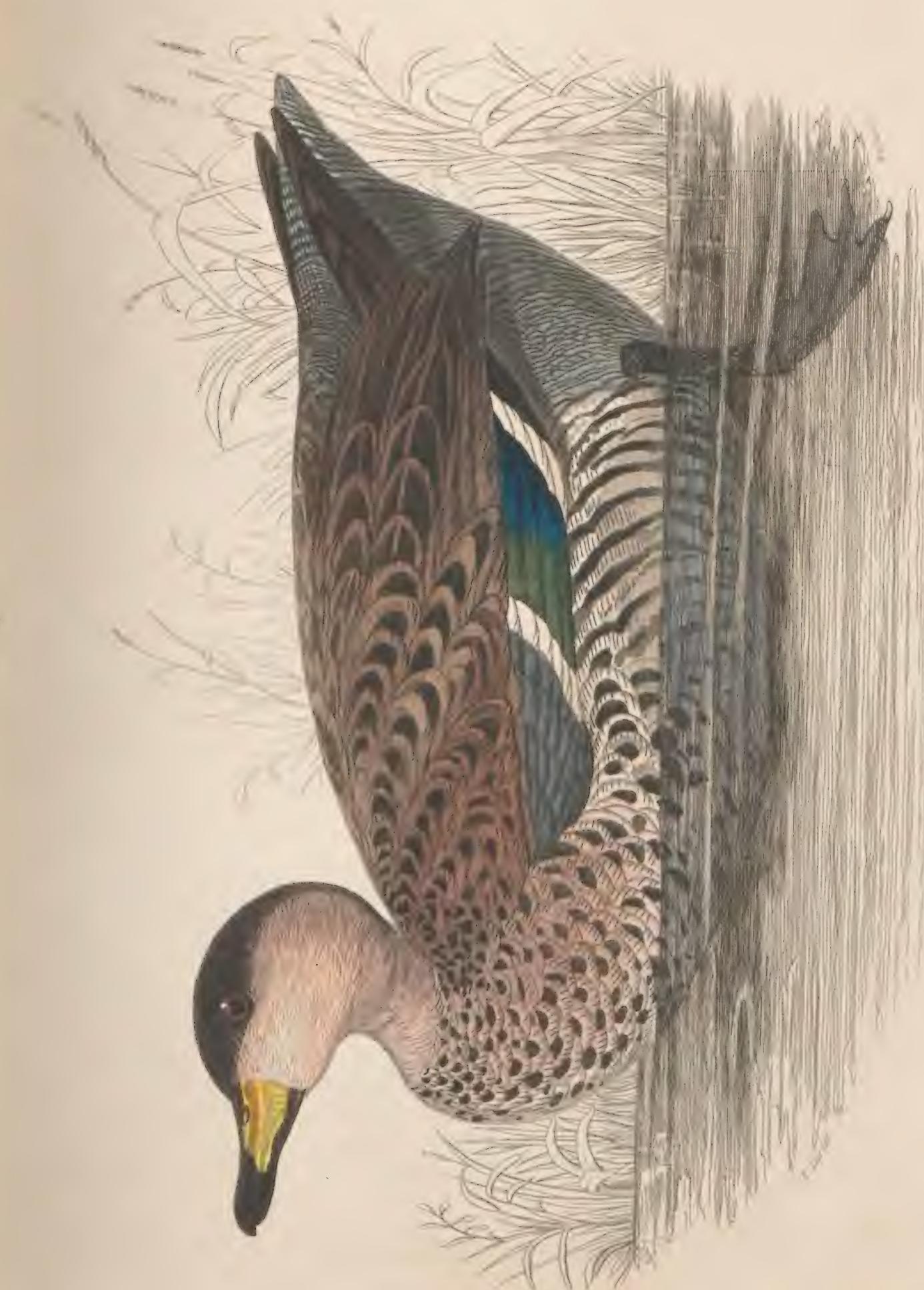
N. S.

“ *P. supra niger, capite subcristato basi alarum albis striga feré occulta exhibente, remigibus basi albis; subtus obscure griseus, gula macula rosea curvata.*”

Psaris roseicollis, D'Orbigny's Synopsis avium, in Guerin Mag. de Zoologie, 3mo. liv. 7mo. année p. 42.—?

PSARIS.—“ *Supra ater aut fusco-niger, capite subcristata nigro subtus schistaceus; collo antico et pectore roseis. Long. tot. 19, cent.—Hab. Guarayos, Yuracares (Bolivia).*” The above is the description of D'Orbigny of the bird to which, with a query, we have referred our present species. The chief difference in the specific character is, “ *collo antico et pectore roseis.*” In the bird before us, the rose-coloured patch is confined to the throat, or front of the neck.

We procured this interesting *Psaris* last year in Liverpool. It is in total length six inches and a quarter, and the colour, so remarkably different from the greater part of this little group, is of a dull black above, shaded into grey on the lower parts of the body, and which gets lighter in shade as it reaches the vent; the head is slightly crested, and is of a darker shade than the rest of the upper parts; at the base, or setting on of the wings, there is a few pure white feathers, forming a clear stripe where the plumes are separated, though but scarcely seen when the wings are closed; and in this stripe, together with the darker colour of the plumage and general form, this bird comes near to the *Ps. cristatus* of Swainson's Illustrations. The base of the quills is white, and the small intermediate quill is half the length of the second, and is broader than in several of the larger species. The peculiar mark of the bird is the beautiful gorget spot of an opaque rosy-red on the throat, and extending on each side in a crescent form. The tail is slightly rounded.



CHIN. PINTAIL, *ANAS CYANOPTERA CHINENSIS.*

CYANOPTERUS FRETENSIS, EYTON.

FASCIATED BLUE-WING.

PLATE XXIX.

N. S.

WE are indebted to Mr. Eyton, the author of an elaborate Monograph of the *Anatidæ*, for the loan of a beautiful drawing of this handsome and rare species, accompanied by the description which we now insert. It has been placed, with one or two others, as typical of a sub-genus allied to the Teals, and also to the true Shovellers, as the form and colourings of the Duck figured in our last Number particularly indicate.

GENUS CYANOPTERUS, EYTON.

GEN. CHAR.—*Pedes digitis posterioribus mechocribus et non lobatis; rostrum mediocre latius ad apicem quam ad basin. Lamellæ paululum elongatæ nares rotundatae magnæ.*

CYANOPTERUS FRETENSIS, EYTON.

FASCIATED BLUE-WING.

Mas.—*Gulâ colloque anteriore pallidè badiis, dorso abdomineque imis caudâque albis nigro fasciatis plitis atro-cœruleis.*

Fem.—*Gulâ colloque mari similibus, dorso imo plilisque atro-cœruleis addomine ferrugineo sparso et fasciato atro.*

Cyanopterus Fretensis, Eyton, Monograph on the Anatidæ, p. 131.
Anas. ————— King, Zool. Journ. Dec. 14, 1830.

THE genus *Cyanopterus*, first instituted in the above quoted work, includes, as far as at present known, four species, of which *C. circia* (*Anas circia*, Linn.), or the common Garganey, approaches nearest in the form of the bill to the genus *Querquedula*, or true Teal, having the lateral margins parallel, while in the former genus they diverge towards the tip.

CYANOPTERUS FRETENSIS.

“ The species regarded as typical (*Anas Rafflesii*, King, fig. xxiii. of these Illustrations) has the bill much expanded, and the lateral margins much over-lapping the lower mandible at the apex, showing a near approach to the Shovellers; the smaller wing-coverts are also precisely of the same bright blue colour found in the genus *Rhynchospis*, and from which the present generic appellation is taken. The remaining species of the group is *C. discors* (*Anas discors*, Linn.), the blue-winged Teal of America, nearly approaching in form to the type of the genus.

“ The present species, in the form of the bill, approaches very closely to the type; the lesser wing-coverts are not of so bright a hue, showing an approach towards the true Teal; it was first brought to this country by Capt. King, and described by him in the Zoological Proceedings, since which period we have received three specimens. Its true habitat appears to be the western coast of America, in the neighbourhood of the Straits of Magellan.

“ The total length, from the tip of the bill to that of the tail, is fourteen inches; of the bill, measuring from the end of the feathers to the apex along the culmen, one inch and a half; the length of the tarsus is one inch. The male bird has the back, breast, fore part of the neck and cheek light yellowish-brown, the two former having in the centre of each feather a dark brown patch; the flanks, abdomen, and rump are white, the former broadly, and the abdomen narrowly barred transversely with black; top of the head, as far down on each side as the eyes, and a streak down the back of the neck, deep brown; wing-coverts slaty-blue, the greater ones tipped with white, secondaries saeinous green, also tipped with white; quills and tertaries long, dusky, and the latter with the centre of each feather darker; feet, legs, and bill bluish-brown, the latter with a yellow patch on each side extending beyond the nostrils. The female and young are similar to the male, but with the abdomen and flanks ferruginous, irregularly barred, and irrorated with dark brown; the rump is black, and the bill has not the yellow marking exhibited in our figure.”

PLATE XXX.

A. A.



RE. L. del.

MALACOPTILUS? ROSEUS.

1859

WILLISTON



MALACONOTUS? ROSEUS, NOBIS.

RED-RUMPED PUFF-BACKED SHRIKE.

PLATE XXX.

N. S.

M. ? brunneo-griseus, subitus pallidior, gula medioque pectoris, uropigio roseis.

WE some time since received a skin of this curious bird, marked "from Western Africa," which, in fact, is the whole information we possess regarding it. At first sight it has all the appearance of a *Malaconotus*, where we have provisionally placed it, but a closer examination points out several distinctions. While resembling the puff-backed shrikes, it at the same time reminds us of *Brachypteryx*, by the shortness of its feet, and in the distribution of the colours of the plumage, which is chiefly remarkable for the rich tint of the feathers clothing the rump and commencement of the upper tail-covers. The upper parts of the body, and two centre tail-feathers, are wood-brown, darkest on the forehead and quills; the cheeks, belly, and flanks, are yellowish or brownish-white, very clear on the cheeks; the chin, throat, and along the centre of the breast, are rich rose-red, the form of the patch widening at the lower part of the throat, and having the feathers there of a closer and more compact texture; across the rump there is a band of the same colour, which is formed of the loose and lengthened feathers which compose the tuft or "puff," so characteristic of these birds; the tail, with the exception of the centre feathers, is black, the tips of those on the outside being white for half an inch to an inch progressively. In structure, the bird is of a lengthened form. The bill is strong, and with a well developed notch and tooth; the wings have the third and fourth quills equal and longest, while in *M. barbarus* it is the fourth and fifth, and in *M. cubla* it is the fourth, fifth, and sixth, the four first being nearly regularly graduated. The tarsi are rather long, having the scaling much and strongly developed. The anterior toes are in the same proportion with those of *Malaconotus*, but, with the hallux, are proportionally shorter. The figure is of the size of life.

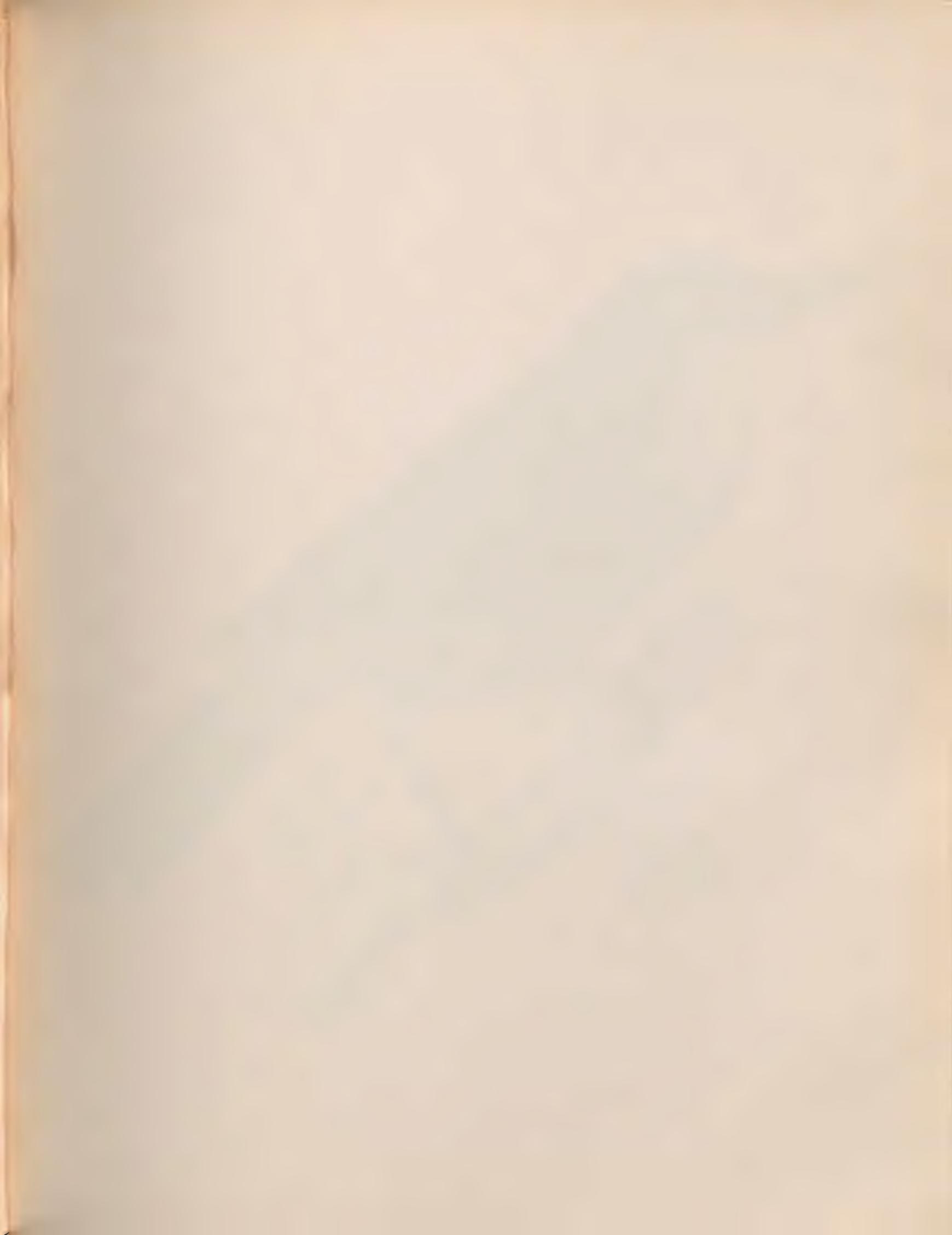


PLATE XXXI.

N. N.



COLLURICINCLA RECTIROSTRIS.

1859.

COLLURICINCLA RECTIROSTRIS, NOBIS.

STRAIGHT-BILLED THRUSH-SHRIKE.

PLATE XXXI.

N. S.

C. rostro recto, valde impresso, apice fortiter emarginato, capite, regione ophthalmia, uryppygio caudaque griseis, dorso alisque griseo-brunneis, jugulo albo, pectore, hypochondriisque cinereis; rectricibus ventro que albido, pedibus nigrescentibus.

THE specimen from which our figure is taken was received from Van Dieman's Land, and, so far as we have been able to ascertain, appears to be a species hitherto uncharacterized. In general aspect it bears a strong resemblance to *Col. cinerea*, the type of the genus, but is easily distinguishable by the purer tint of grey which prevails upon the cheeks, rump, and tail, by its white throat and abdomen, as well as by the length and strongness of its bill, which is also more compressed than that of the former bird. In the formula of its wing-feathers, it differs slightly from the other species, in having the third quill a little shorter than the fourth and fifth, these three being equal in *Col. cinerea*. In size it slightly exceeds its congener, and its legs and feet are comparatively stronger. According to Mr. Swainson's views, this genus represents the tenuirostral group of the sub-family *Thamnophilinae*, or bush-shrikes. Of the habits of these birds we unfortunately possess no accurate information, a deficiency we have but too often to regret in regard to exotic ornithology. In length it measures nine inches; the bill from the forehead is nearly one inch and one-eighth long, much compressed throughout its length; the culmen strait at the base; the tip of the upper mandible hooked, and pretty strongly emarginated. Tomia of both mandibles strait; gony slightly ascending. The crown is of a deep cinereous, the shafts of the feathers darker; the region of the eyes and sides of the neck, grey; the mantle pale umber-brown, the wings tinted with the same colour; the greater coverts and quills are margined with pale grey; the lower back, rump, and tail, ash-grey; the throat and lower neck, pure white; the breast shows a zone or collar of grey; the abdomen is white; the flanks grey, tinged with brown; the legs, feet, and claws, blackish-grey.

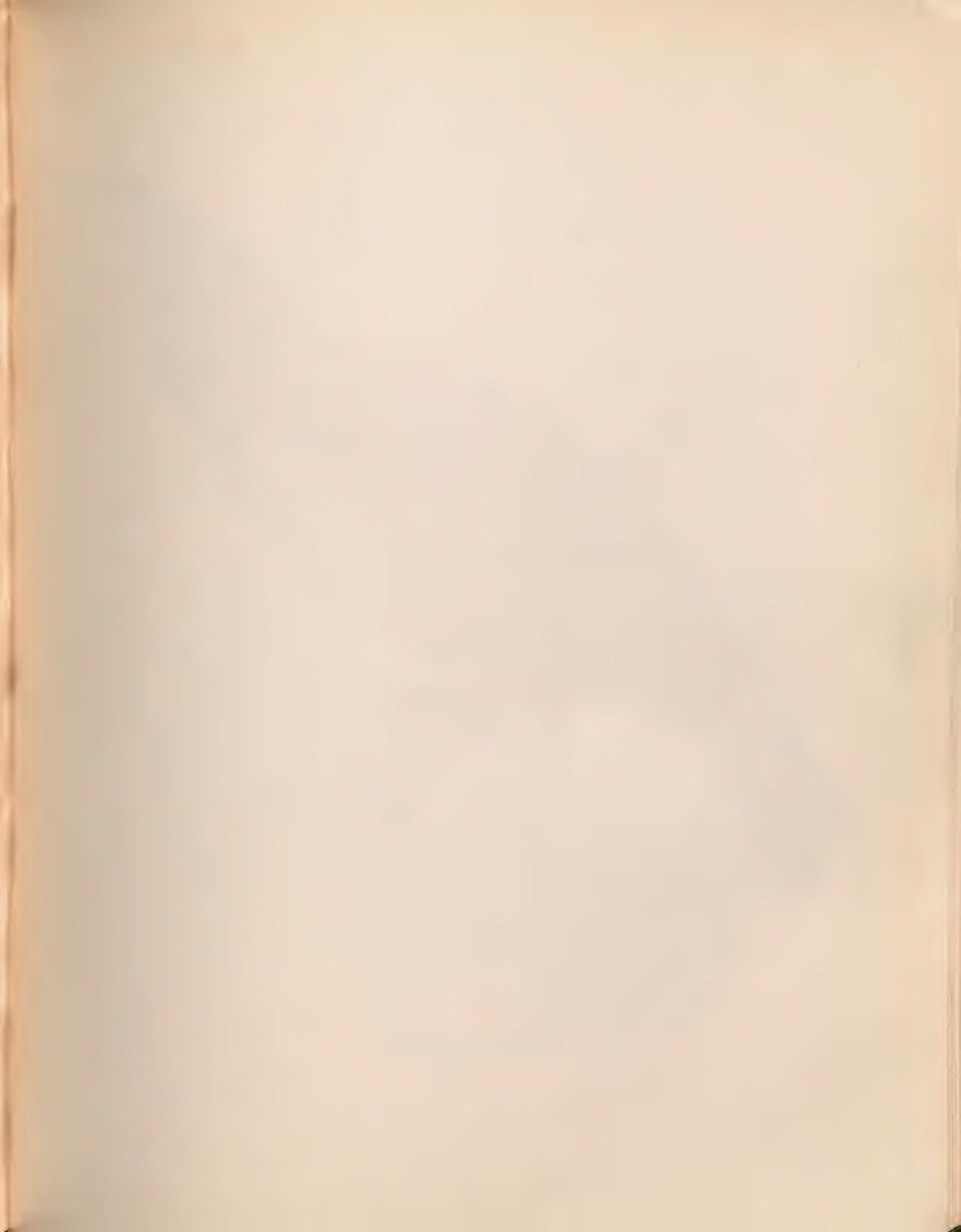


PLATE 100.



CORVUS CORONE CORNIX

1619

CORVUS LEUCONOTUS, SWAINS.

WHITE-BACKED CROW OF WESTERN AFRICA.

PLATE XXXII.

N. S.

Corvus leuconotus, White-backed Crow, *Swains.*, Birds of West. Africa, Nat. Lib. VII. p. 133.

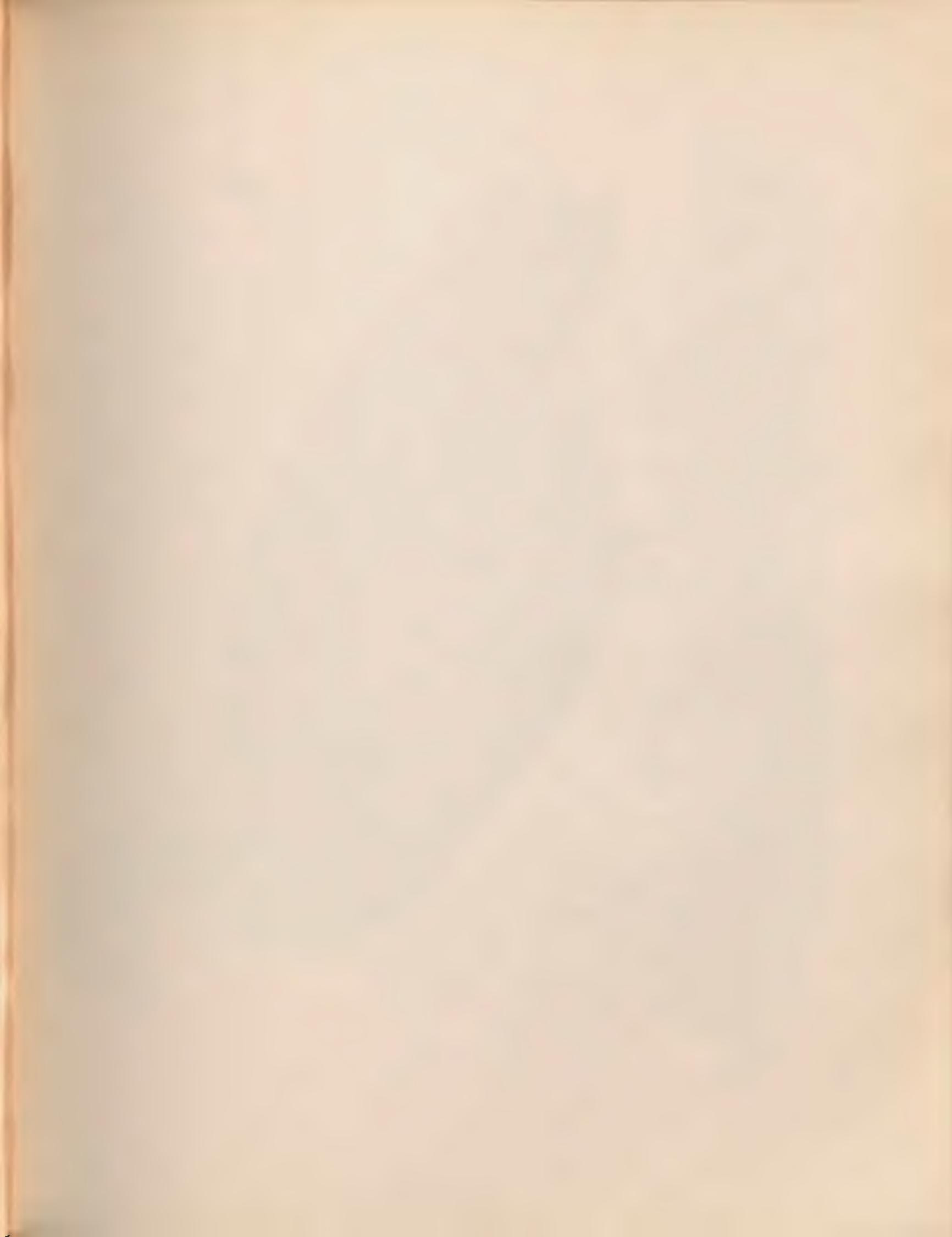
THE drawing for the accompanying plate was made by Mr. Lear in 1836 from specimens in the British Museum, but we received it without any name or description. In the following spring, collections of birds from the western shores of Africa were brought by several individuals to Europe; and a portion of these being sent by a dealer to Edinburgh for sale, we picked out the specimens we now describe. From the same collections, we believe, Mr. Swainson procured many of the birds which he has so well figured and described in his "Birds of Western Africa;" and, among them, the Crow in question, which he has named as above.

Our extended knowledge of ornithology has shown us, that in many genera, the species continue their characters within a certain geographical range, and represent their corresponding species in other districts. This is seen among the true crows. The European and North American birds were long considered identical. Rüppell pointed out some birds in Northern Africa, which were previously confused, and our present bird may be considered as a third instance. This bird seems at first to have been considered similar with a species from Southern Africa, from which we agree with Mr. Swainson in considering it distinct, and we now add a minute description, with measurement of the specimens before us, so as, if possible, to enable the distinctions to be seen in any comparison of others from different localities.

The entire length is seventeen inches; of the bill to the extremity of the

CORVUS LEUCONOTUS.

rictus, one and a-half; of the wing to the tip of the longest quill, fourteen. The dark parts of the plumage are of a rich glossy black, with steel-blue reflections, brightest on the back and wings; across the nape, or upper part of the back, there is a crescent of pure white, not exceeding an inch in breadth at the broadest part, and joining narrowly on the sides with the white, which covers the lower part of the breast and greater part of the belly in the form of a broad band. On the throat, and upper part of the breast, the feathers appear lanceolate; but this is occasioned by the tip being as it were cut out, and exhibiting two short points or edges. The wings reach more than an inch beyond the tail.





CEREOPSIS NOVÆ HOLLANDIÆ, LATHAM.

NEW HOLLAND OR AUSTRALIAN CEREOPSIS.*

PLATE XXXIII.

N.S.

C. obscure griseus, subitus et apicibus plumarum pallidior, secondariis rectricibusque maculis brunneis rotundis notatis, capite albo, cera pallide flava.

Cereopsis Novæ Hollandiæ, Lath.—*Temm. Pl. Col.*—*Cereopsis, Pigeon Goose, Swains.*

SOME years since, the Earl of Derby permitted Mr. Lear to make drawings from several of the more interesting birds kept alive in the magnificent collection at Knowsley; and, although we cannot write the description of the New Holland Cereopsis from specimens before us, we do not hesitate to give an engraving of Mr. Lear's drawing, as perhaps the only figure yet published which has been taken from a living specimen.

From the bill being small, and towards the tip attenuated, swollen at the base, and covered with a pale yellow skin or cere, this bird has been in our latest system denominated "Pigeon Goose," and is considered to be a gallatorial type, while it at the same time represents the pigeons among the rasores. The structure of the legs is also gallatorial; they are longer than any of the geese generally, and are bare of feathers for a short space above the knees. The feet are strong, and have the interdigital webs much cut in, and thick in substance. In its manners the Cereopsis resembles the geese; but, according to the reports of those who have seen them in their native country, they are scarcely so frequently in the water.† Several specimens were kept in the collection of His late Majesty in the great park at Windsor, where they became familiar, and

* A very full history of the Cereopsis, by Mr. Bennet, will be found in "The Gardens and Menagerie" of the Zoological Society.

† "It feeds upon grass, and rarely takes to the water."—*Flinders.*

CEREOPSIS NOVÆ HOLLANDIÆ.

bred freely, which has also been the case both at Knowsley and the London Zoological gardens. In structure, the observations of Mr. Yarrell on specimens which died in the Zoological's collection, tend in many respects to show its alliance with the grallatores "externally in the character of the bones, particularly in the rounded form of the edge, and great depth of the keel of the sternum, and the lateral situation of the trachea in reference to the cervical vertibræ, it was decidedly similar to the ardeadæ." ? *

The Cereopsis seems not to be very unfrequent on the southern coast of New Holland, though it long continued, and still is, a rare bird in our collections, a fact arising, perhaps, more from its restricted localities, than any rarity in the districts where it occurs. It is found also in the vicinity of Bass' Straits, and in Van Dieman's Land.

* Yarrell, Proceed. of Zool. Soc. 1831, p. 26.

PLATE XXXV.

AN



ERYTHURA CINNAMOMEA.

1879.

R. H. TINKER

ERYTHURA CHEET.

THE CHEET FINCH.

PLATE XXXIV.

N. S.

Lonchura cheet, *Col. Sykes' Proceedings of Zool. Soc.* for 1832, p. 95.

E. "pallidè cinnamomea-brunnea; corpore subtus uropigioque albis; remigibus rectricibusque intense brunneis."—*Mas.*
"Coloribus minus intensis."—*Fam.*

COLONEL SYKES, since his return from India, has laid before many of the scientific societies in London the results of his researches and observations abroad, which seem to have ranged over a varied and interesting field of history, antiquities and literature, statistics and zoology, showing what an active mind and judicious exertions are capable of performing, even though the individual is otherwise engaged with his profession and the service of his country. Synoptical lists of his zoological collections were published in the proceedings of the Zoological Society of London, and, upon our making application for information regarding some of the species of Indian birds which were considered new, Colonel Sykes kindly allowed Mr. Lear to make drawings from some of the more interesting. The handsome little Finch, figured on the accompanying plate, is one of those; and our figure, taken from the specimens in the Colonel's collection, independently of showing an interesting form, will serve as a guide to the species. The figure is of the natural size, and the sexes are stated to be nearly similar, except in the clearness of the tints. "They live in small families, and are often found in possession of the deserted nests of the *Ploceus philippensis*, but their own nest is a hollow ball of grass. Ten white eggs, not much larger than peas, were found in a nest. The cry of the bird is *cheet, cheet, cheet*, uttered simultaneously by flocks in flight."*

* *Proceed. of Zool. Soc.* for 1832, p. 95.



LARUS SABINI, JUV.
1859

LARUS SABINII, J. SABINE.

THE SABINE OR FORK-TAILED GULL.

PLATE XXXV.

N. S.

Mas. estate.—*L. capite gulaque griseo-nigris torque nigerrimo cinctis; dorso plumbeo, inferiore corporis albo, cauda alba, furcata.*

Hyeme.—*Capite gulaque albis, torque nigro obscuriore?* *

Hornot.—*Supra griseus, fronte regioneque oculorum pallidis, plumis dorsi brunneo apicibus cinctis, scapularum et tectricum apicibus albis—subtus albus hypochondriis pallide brunneis; cauda apice nigro.*

Larus Sabinii, J. Sabine, Trans. Linn. Soc.; Richardson's Append. to Parry's 2d Voyage; Swains. North. Zool; Audubon, Plate cclxxxv.; Gould, Birds of Europe.
Xema Sabinii, Leach, Ross's Voy. Append.

IT has been our custom, throughout these illustrations, to give the figure and history of some of our very rare and occasional visitants, and, on this occasion, we are induced to continue our plan, by the species never having been previously figured or described in the dress in which we are now enabled to represent it.

The Sabine, or Fork-tailed Gull, was first noticed as an addition to the British Fauna, by Mr. William Thompson of Belfast, who communicated the discovery of it to the periodicals of the time;† and some months since, we were indebted to his attention for a beautiful drawing by Miss Thompson, made from one of the original British killed specimens, which we have now used as the copy for our illustration. The adult bird, in its summer or breeding plumage, is a general but not very abundant summer visiter to the rocky coasts and islands in the Arctic Seas; it was met with by most of the expeditions which have been sent to these latitudes, and in this state has been described in the works which they have given rise to. The winter state has, however, not yet been observed, nor has the country to which it retires, after having performed

* This, we suppose, will be the plumage in winter; the black collar may probably be lost entirely.

† The two first specimens were announced to the Linnaean Society of London, in April 1834.

LARUS SABINII.

the duties of incubation, been yet discovered. The specimens which have occurred in Britain have all been killed on the Irish shores, and have all been in a young or immature dress. It is in this state we shall now advert to it, and we shall use Mr. Thompson's own words in describing what he had the merit of introducing to the notice of our ornithologists.

In Mr. Thompson's "Contributions to the Natural History of Ireland," published in the Magazine of Zoology and Botany, we have the following information, which comprises all that is at the present date upon record regarding the British specimens:—

"On the present occasion I have not only the high satisfaction of enriching the British Fauna, by adding to it the beautiful *Larus Sabinii*, so lately discovered, but of describing the species in the plumage of the first year, in which attire it has never come under the inspection of the ornithologist. The bird now exhibited was shot in Belfast Bay, on the 18th September, 1822, by the late John Montgomery, Esq. of Locust Lodge, who carefully preserved it, under the impression that it was an individual of the closely allied species, *Larus minutus*, by which name it was distinguished, when presented in April 1833 to the Natural History Society of Belfast. Mr. Montgomery informed me, that from the diminutive size, &c. of this bird when first seen by him, he had no doubt of its rarity. It was so unwary as to alight once or twice within twenty yards of him; but, to avoid disfiguring it, he fired from so great a distance, that it was only at the third shot eventually obtained. That the species is regardless of the report of a gun, was witnessed by Captain Sabine in its breeding haunts, within the arctic circle, as he states, that 'when one bird of a pair was killed, its mate, though frequently fired at, continued on wing close to the spot where it lay.'

Although the *Larus Sabinii* closely approximates the *Larus minutus* in general appearance, the plumage of the first year, as well as that of maturity, being very similar in both species; the superior size of the *L. Sabinii*, its tail being forked to the depth of an inch, and the comparatively greater length of its tibia and tarsus, may always (even in a preserved state) afford sufficient specific distinction. In the form of the tail, the *L. Sabinii* approaches the typical species of *Sterna* more nearly than its congener, the *L. minutus*. The latter, however, resembles that genus more in the form of the bill, and in the dimensions of the tarsus and tibia.

In this specimen of the *L. Sabinii*, in the autumnal plumage of the first year, the forehead, space immediately above the eye, and between it and the bill (with the exception of the narrow line of greyish-black closely encircling the

LARUS SABINII.

front and lower part of the eye), upper part of the throat, and sides of the neck, are white; crown, nape, and back of the neck, blackish-grey; back, scapulars, greater and lesser wing-coverts, blackish-grey, tinged with yellowish-brown, the extremity of every feather varying from greyish-white to white, as it approaches the tail; under part of the throat and upper part of the breast, pale ash-colour; lower breast and all the under plumage, white; shafts of the first six primaries brownish-black at base, becoming gradually darker towards the extremity, where they are black in the first three, but in the fourth, fifth, and sixth, assimilate in colour to the feather at that part, which is white; the entire of the outer webs of the first five, black; the inner webs, with a broad edging of white, to within from one to two inches of the end, which part is black in the first three, but tipped with white in the fourth and fifth; in the sixth, the inner web is white, the outer black, excepting for three or four lines from the tip, where it is white, and again, at about an inch from the end, where a white spot of an oval form appears.* Feathers of the tail twelve in number, white, with black tips; in the two shortest the latter colour extends upwards of an inch from the end, in the outer web especially; of the other feathers, the black prevails in a less degree as they increase in length; upper and under tail-coverts white."

March, 1838.—Having just seen the notes of the late Mr. Montgomery on this individual, I am enabled to add the recent colour of the bill, legs, &c., which, in the immature bird, has not been described. Under the name of *Larus minutus*, which it was considered to be, it is remarked—"irides dark, bill dark, legs pale flesh colour, weight $5\frac{1}{2}$ ounces."

Length, (total).....	12	inches.	0	lines.
of tail	4		9	
wing from carpus to end of 1st quill	10		0	
bill from forehead to point	0		10	
bill from rictus to point	1		5	
tibia bare of feathers from the tarsal joint for. .	0		9	
tarsus	1		4	
middle toe and nail.....	1		$1\frac{1}{2}$	
outer toe and nail	1		1	
inner toe and nail	0		$9\frac{1}{2}$	
hinder toe† and nail	0		2	
Depth of fork of tail	1		0	

* This marking of the sixth primary is just the opposite of that observed by Mr. Sabine in some mature specimens, in which its prevailing colour was white, "with sometimes a black spot near the end." Dr. Richardson has remarked, in the *Fauna Bor. Amer.*, that this primary is subject to variation.

† This is placed so high that the point of the nail does not reach within one and a-half lines of the ground.

LARUS SABINII.

"In the museum of the Royal Dublin Society, I lately observed, without having any label attached to it, a second specimen of *Larus Sabinii*. Upon inquiry from Mr. Wall, the very obliging curator (who treasured the bird as a rarity, though he had not ascertained its species), I learned that it had been shot by himself in Dublin Bay, near to Kingston, a few years before, but he could not recollect at what season. The stage of plumage, however, affords sufficient evidence that it was killed in autumn, being a bird of the first year, and similar in appearance to the specimen in the Belfast Museum."—*Mag. Zool. and Bot.* vol. i. pp. 460—462.

"A third specimen of the *Larus Sabinii* occurred last autumn in Ireland. It was shot on or about September 15, 1834, on the shore of Belfast Bay, near Claremont, the residence of Mrs. Clewlow, in whose possession it now is. It is a young bird of the year, and in plumage similar to the other two individuals of this species, which I had the satisfaction of announcing to the Linnæan Society, last year, as having been obtained in Ireland."* "The dimensions of this bird (from which the figure has been drawn), taken in the same manner, and compared with those of the individual above described, exhibit but one difference at all worthy of notice; its first quill being longer than the second, though the second slightly exceeds the first, in the latter specimen."—*Mag. Zool. and Bot.* vol. i. p. 464.

"I have to record the occurrence of a fourth *L. Sabinii*, in Ireland. It was shot, in company with Terns (*Sternæ*), in the Bay of Dublin, on September, 12, 1837, and came into the possession of H. H. Dombrain, Esq. of that city. This gentleman has kindly informed me, that the specimen corresponds with the description of the *L. Sabinii* in the plumage of the first year (*Mag. Zool. and Bot.* vol. i. p. 460) in every respect but one, that of having 'the under part of the throat, and the upper part of the breast,' which, instead of 'pale ash colour,' as in the bird originally described.†

The dates of the occurrence of the *L. Sabinii* in Ireland approximate very closely, though they were all obtained in different years. In Belfast Bay, they were shot on the 15th and 18th of September, and in Dublin Bay on the 12th of the same month. The date when the first specimen was procured here is unknown."—*Annals Nat. Hist.* vol. i. p. 158.

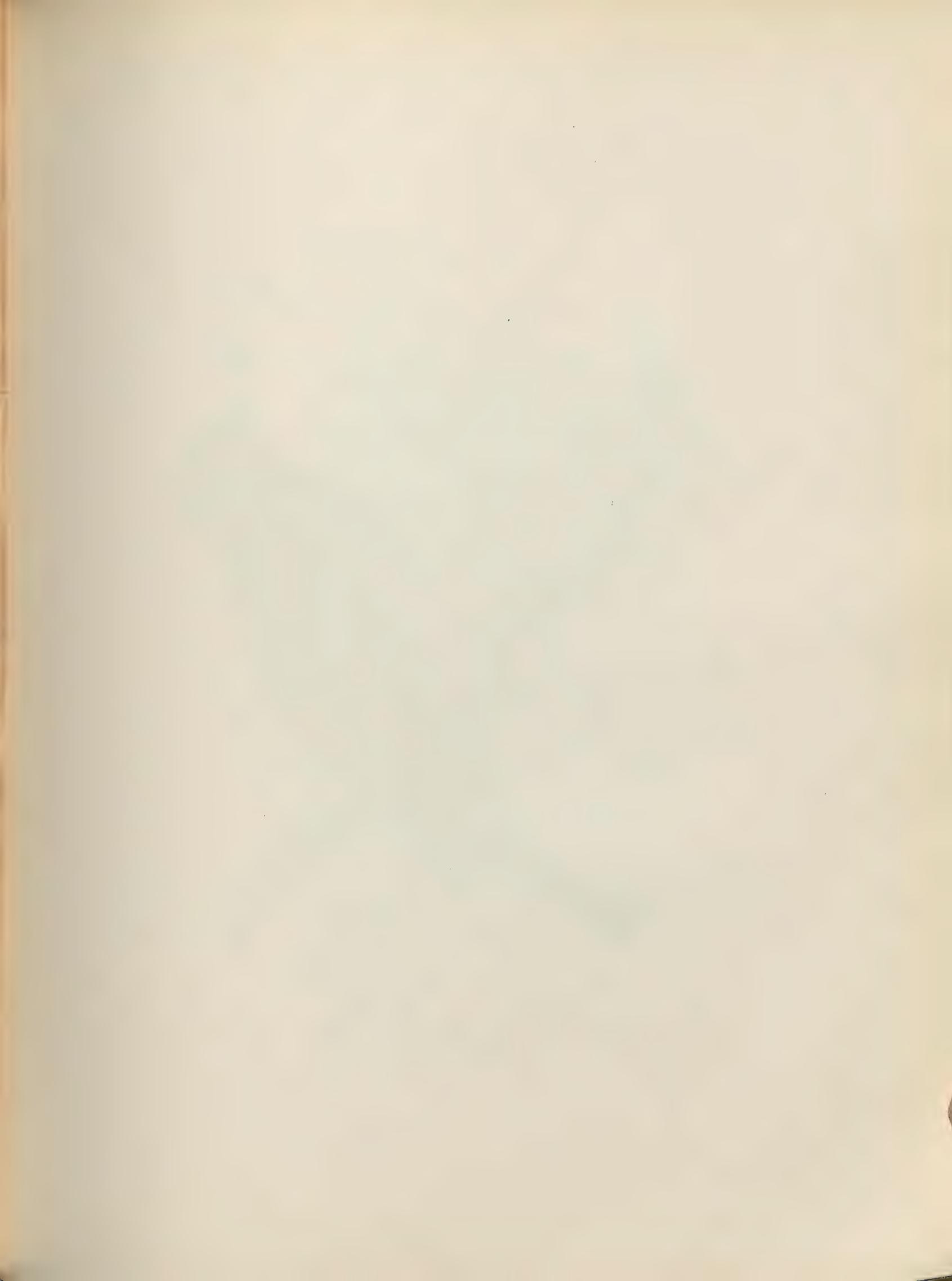
The four individuals above noticed, are all which have yet (December 1838) been positively recorded as obtained on the British shores.

* *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London* for 1835, p. 83.

† Having since seen the specimen, I can bear testimony to the accuracy of my informant in every respect.

LARUS SABINII.

In the appendix to Ross's 2d voyage, p. xxxvii., it is remarked under the head of *Larus Sabinii*,—"I have lately heard that it has also been found on the west coast of Ireland." By Captain J. C. Ross, the author of this zoological part of the volume, I have been told that this information was derived from the late Joseph Sabine, Esq. The article on the *L. Sabinii* was written by Captain Ross early in 1834, in the month of April, in which year the species was first announced as having been obtained in Ireland. Mr. Sabine was present when the communication was read to the Linnaean Society, and in expressing his gratification to me on the addition of the species (of which he was the original describer) to the British Fauna, said nothing of its occurrence on any other part of the British shores being known to him. From the remarks made by Mr. Sabine, I am indeed certain, that he was not at that time aware of any other British specimens; and, as he did not subsequently record any fact of the kind, I am induced to believe, that it was merely the individuals announced to the Linnaean Society that were alluded to, with the error of the "west" being substituted for the east coast of Ireland.





AGLAIA ERYTHROTUS, NOBIS.

CRIMSON-EARED AGLAIA.

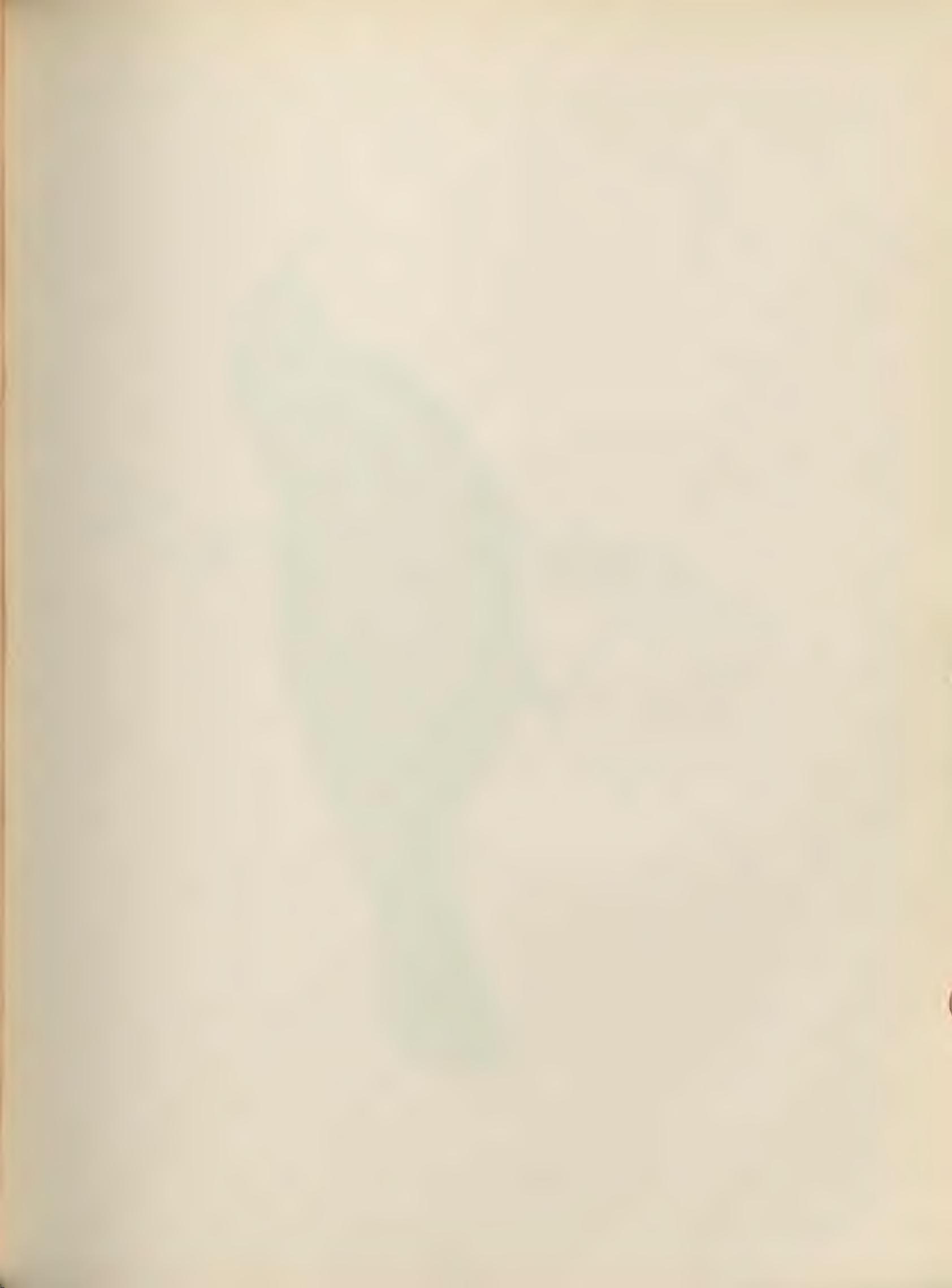
PLATE XXXVI.

N. S.

A. nigerrimus, apicibus auricularum, macula utrinque capitatis, abdomine, hypochondriis coccineis; epulis uropygio berrillinis.

MR. CARFRAE of Edinburgh lately showed us a skin of this new and beautiful Aглая, and obligingly allowed us to make a drawing and description. It was received with a small collection of interesting birds from South America; and to judge from some of the other species accompanying it, we consider that they must have been procured somewhere near or in the district of Buennos Ayres. The bird to which it approaches nearest, is the *Tanagra igniventris* of D'Orbigny, figured in the atlas to his "Voyage dans l'Amerique Meridionale," but of which we have yet no description. It differs, however, from that species, by having the belly only red, while in *T. igniventris* the whole under parts are of that tint; the blue on the wings of the latter is also differently distributed, and the crimson spot on the sides of the head appear to extend to the occiput.

The skin lent to us by Mr. Carfrae was six inches in length. The form rather stout and compact. The general plumage was of a deep and intense black, relieved by the crimson spot on the sides of the head of an oval form, occupying the tips of the auricular feathers, and the space immediately behind them. The belly is of the same intense and clear colour, commencing at the breast, and ceasing immediately beyond the insertion of the legs. The shoulders, rump, and upper tail-covers, are of a rich ultramarine-blue, slightly tinted with cobalt lustre; but there is no appearance of that colour on the edges of the secondaries or quills, as represented in the figure of D'Orbigny. The thighs, legs, and bill, are black.





MERULA NESTOR, GOULD.

HOARY-HEADED THRUSH.

PLATE XXXVII.

N. S.

"*M. fuliginosa-nigra*; capite colloque sordide cinereis; caudæ tectricibus inferioribus macula longitudinali flavescenti—albida notatis."

Merula Nestor, *Gould*, Proceed. Zool. Soc. 1835, p. 186.

WE give the accompanying figure to identify Mr. Gould's *M. Nestor*, engraved from a drawing by Lear, from the specimen which served for the description in the proceedings of the Zoological Society, quoted above. It is possible that some of the numerous specimens described in Dr. Latham's General History may be referable to this, although we cannot now exactly recognise them. It comes under the division adopted by some ornithologists as "merula," and comprising only those of nearly uniform and generally dark plumage, and it must be under this arrangement that it is remarked to be "the first of the genus received from New Holland." Captain Sturt procured the specimen described in the Murrumbidgee country. The total length of the bird is about seven inches and three quarters.





DICRURUS RANGOONENSIS.

RANGOON DRONGO-SHRIKE.

PLATE XXXVIII.

N. S.

“ *D. ater viridi splendens*; rectricum externarum scapis longissimis, vexillis latè spatulatis ad apicis marginem exteriorem preditis.”

Edolius Rangoonensis, Gould. Proceed. Zool. Soc. 1836, p. 5.

THIS bird we figure with the same intention as that last represented, having procured a drawing from the specimen described soon after Mr. Gould brought it under notice. In a genus so closely allied in form and colouring, we are aware that the specific distinctions must be sometimes looked for minutely, and will often occur in proportional measurements and slight differences, which in other groups would not be considered of sufficient importance; at the same time, we do not know if the changes incident to age and season have been sufficiently attended to, to enable us with certainty to pronounce all those apparently slight modifications to be caused by individual difference, or only by the causes above alluded to: neither do we know the range of size and of proportion of the different parts which run through the numerous individuals of a species, or of the gradations which may exist among them. We can add nothing in addition to our figure than the short note appended to Mr. Gould's characters, that it is “distinguishable from *Ed. (Dicrurus) malabaricus*, to which it is nearly allied, by its shorter beak, and by the total absence from its forehead of the fine curled plumes which decorate that bird; the wing is also somewhat shorter.”



CYPSELUS VITTATUS, NOBIS.

WHITE-BANDED CHINESE SWIFT.

PLATE XXXIX.

N. S.

C. supra fuliginosus, olivaceo tinctus, alis caudaque nigris; subtus fuliginosus albo fasciatus, gula et vitta uropygio cingente etiamque albis.

THIS species of Swift, received some time since from the vicinity of Canton, we do not find agreeing exactly with any bird whose description we have had an opportunity of comparing it with. That approaching nearest seems to be the "White-backed Swift" of Dr. Latham;* but in this "the lower part of the back, rump, vent, and under tail-covers," are said to be white, while in the bird before us there is a narrow band only, passing across the rump above the tail-covers, and running round to the same breadth upon the lower part of the body.

Our specimen, in total length, to the extremity of outer tail-feathers, is about six inches and a half, while the wings, from the bend of the shoulder to the tip of the outer quill, are in length fully seven inches. The whole upper parts, with the exception of the white band previously mentioned, are of a dull brownish-black, darkest on the wings and tail, and in the centre glossed with olivaceous; the lower parts are of the same colour, but paler, and barred at the tips of each feather with white. The chin and throat are white, the colour running slightly down upon the centre of the breast. The tail is forked nearly to the extent of an inch and a half.

* General History, VII. p. 326.



ANAS SPECULARIS, KING.

BRONZE-WINGED DUCK.

PLATE XL.

N. S.

"A brunnea maculâ magnâ et ovali utrinque ante oculos, mento thoraceque albis."

Anas Specularis, *King*, Zool. Journ. Vol. IV. p. 98.

A. Specularoides, *Eytoni*, Monag. Anatidæ, p. 128.

A. Chalcoptera, *Kitlit*.

WE are indebted to Mr. Eyton for the loan of a very beautiful drawing by Lear of this duck, taken from the original specimen, and for the annexed description taken from the same bird:—"Head and neck umber-brown, with a large oval spot of white between the eye and bill, placed transversely; a broad collar of white on the upper part of the neck, not meeting at the back, from which proceeds a streak to the chin, also white; under surface brownish-grey, undulated with darker grey; back and coverts brown, slightly glossed with brassy-green; coverts tipped with white; rump and tail, ashy-brown. Total length, twenty-five inches and a half. Length of bill from forehead, one inch and seven-eighths; length of tarsi, one inch and seven-eighths.

The specimen from which the above description is taken is in the museum of the Zoological Society, and was brought to Great Britain by Captain King from the Straights of Magellan. There are also specimens in the British Museum."



RAVEN. (CORVUS CORVUS.)
10.

CROTOPHAGA RUGIROSTRA. SWAINSON.

WRINKLED-BILL KEEL-BILL.

PLATE XLI.

N. S.

Crotophaga rugirostra, Swainson. Two centenaria of birds in Lard. Cyclop. Menageries, p. 321.
Wrinkled-bill Keel-bill, Annals of Nat. Hist. Vol. IV. p. 168.

C. nigra purpureo iridescente, plumis capitis, colli et corporis apicibus nitentibus; rostro transversè rugosa.

THE specimens from which our accompanying Plate was taken, form part of the collections we have received from the Island of Tobago by the attention and exertion of Mr. Kirk, whom we have already had occasion to mention as a contributor to these Illustrations. It appears to be identical with the bird which Mr. Swainson has described as new in his two centenaries of birds, appended to a late volume of Lardner's Cyclopædia. The specimens received from Tobago varied in total length, from thirteen to rather more than fifteen inches. In those received in spirits the bill is of a greyish-black, at the base of the maxilla inclining to bluish-black; it varies in elevation and development in different specimens, and it is wrinkled transversely downwards. The eye is protected by strong superciliary bristles, but the space between it and the rictus is nearly bare of feathers, a few scattered bristly plumes only covering it. The ridge of the bill enters among the plumes of the forehead, which run down in a narrow point on each side of the nostrils, and at this part, and above the eyes, they show strong, rather elongated, shafts, somewhat similar to what we perceive in some of the *Rallidae*, and which are, without doubt, intended to protect the face while the birds seek for their prey among thick herbage. This structure, in a less degree, extends also over the head, cheeks, throat, and sides of the neck, the feathers being there rigid

CROTOPHAGA RUGIROSTRA.

and somewhat lanceolate in form. The ground tint of the plumage of the body is a dull black, each feather being margined with a glossy band of a yellowish metallic lustre on the head and neck; on the back and lower parts, of steel-blue and violet. These bands, on the vent, flanks, and under tail-covers, are wanting. The wings and tail are of a shade of black, deeper than that of the body, and are richly tinted with violet reflections; the secondaries, greater wing-covers, and tail, in some lights, showing darker narrow transverse bars. The tail is rounded and very ample, the feathers broadening towards the tips, and in its whole appearance reminds us of that member in several raptorial genera: in all our specimens it consisted only of eight feathers. The legs and feet are black; the tarsus and middle toe very nearly of equal length; the claws slightly hooked. The extreme toe is subversatile, but the structure of the foot is in other respects ambulatorial. Mr. Kirk states, that the eyes are "very dark, apparently blue, except in sun-light, when they assume a very dark hazel colour."

Mr. Swainson describes his specimen from southern Brazil, and Mr. Schomburgk has informed us, that the *Crotophagæ* he met with in British Guiana agreed with those we have now described, and which were submitted to his inspection; it would therefore appear to have a geographical range of considerable extent.







PRIONITES CÆRULEOCEPHALUS.

BLUE-HEADED MOTMOT.

PLATE XLII.

N. S.

P. corona tota cœrula, linèa nigra posticè circumdata, fronte viridescente, loris auriculisque nigris; corpore et supra et subtus olivaceo.

WE procured a skin of this Motmot without being able to trace its locality, and have only yet seen a single specimen of the species. It is at once distinguished by the crown of the head being entirely blue, approaching in tint to verditer; on the front, coloured with yellowish-green, and on the occiput having the feathers rather elongated, and of a clearer or more brilliant hue; here it is also narrowly bordered with black, which relieves it from the uniform brownish-green, in which all the other parts of the plumage are clothed, the lores and auricular feathers excepted, which are, as usual, deep black. The tail exhibits the same spatulate form noticed in the other known species; the bill is more slender than in *P. Brasiliensis* and *Bahamensis*, a little more dilated and depressed at the base, and the serratures are irregular. The length of our specimen is fifteen inches and a-half.





TANAGRA CUCULLATA.

BLUE HOODED-TANAGER.

PLATE XLIII.

N. S.

T. capite, gula, remigibus caudaque nigris; dorso scapulisque intensè cæruleis; pectore inferioribusque flavis.

THIS large and beautiful species was lent to us by Mr. Carfrae, and was supposed to have been received from the vicinity of Buenos Ayres or Bolivia. It is a very large species, much exceeding the size of the typical birds of the genus, the entire length being nine inches and a quarter. The head, neck, throat, fore part of the neck, passing down in a stripe on each side of the breast, and there separating the colours of the upper and under parts, deep black. The whole of the upper parts, tail-coverts, shoulders, and edges of secondaries, rich cobalt-blue, without having any pale shade between the black of the crown and this colour, as in *T. montana* of D'Orbigny. Tail, wings, and thighs, black; under parts entirely rich Indian-yellow. Feet and legs black. Bill black, with base of the maxilla steel-blue.

The nearest approach to this bird now represented, is the *Tanagra montana* of D'Orbigny, *Voyage dans l'Amerique meridionale*, Plate xxiii. fig. 1, a large species from Bolivia, differing, so far as we can judge from the figure, in a pale zone upon the nape, separating the black from the blue of the back, and in the black colour extending over the fore part of the breast, and not upon the sides only.





PITYLUS DORSIGERUS.
1841

PLATE XLV.
A.S.



PRIONITIS BAHAMENSIS.

1842

PRIONITES BAHAMENSIS, SWAINSON.

BAHAMA MOTMOT.

PLATE XLV.

N. S.

P. corona medio nigro, cœruleo cineta, plumis occipitis elongatis purpureo tinctis, loris auriculisque nigris; corpore supra olivaceo, subtus castaneo.

Prionites Bahamensis, *Swainson*. Animals in Menag., Part III. p. 332.
Sir W. Jardine, Annals of Nat. Hist. VI. p. 321.

THIS beautiful Motmot appears to be first noticed in the volume of the Cabinet Cyclopedie, quoted above, from specimens brought from the Bahama Islands by Mr. Lees. Our specimens, of which we have received many in various states, were procured for us by Mr. Kirk, in the island of Tobago, where it is known under the name of "King of the Wood;" and we may remark, that we have never received specimens from any of the other West Indian Islands, or from any part of the mainland of the Southern Continent of America. In the volume of the Annals of Natural History, which has been referred to, will be found some observations on the group, with an account of the habits and structure of our present specimen, which are too long to be inserted here. The species may be at once distinguished, from all those already known, by the nearly uniform rufous or chestnut colour of the under parts, deepest on the chin, and becoming of a more yellow tint on the under tail-coverts. The thighs vary in being green. The upper parts are of the olive tint of the other species, brighter on the middle of the back and feathers covering the wings, and shading gradually upon the sides of the neck and breast into the colour of

PRIONITES BAHAMENSIS.

the lower parts. The head is nearly as in *P. Brasiliensis*, azure in front, and above the eyes round the occiput tinted with purple, and having the last feathers tipped with black, which gives a deeper shade or an interrupted nearly black circle. Tail, as in the others, and with the edges of the quills tinted with purple and azure, according to light. In the young birds all the colours are less brilliant. The belly and vent are tinted with green. The tail has the centre feathers entire. Specimens before us, of the young and adult, vary in length, from thirteen to sixteen inches.

PLATE XLVI.

A.S.



INDIANTHAIX PORPHYREOLOPHA.

1642

J. Stewart del.

W. H. Lizars sc.



CORYTHAIX PORPHYREOLOPHA, VIGORS.

PURPLE-CRESTED TOURACO.

PLATE XLVI.

N. S.

“C. collo, abdomine medio, pectore regioneque scapulari gramineo-viridibus, his rufescensibus; fronte strigaque per oculos splendidè viridibus; capite cristato, alis caudaque splendenti-purpureis; renigum fascia lata, subpurpurascenti-coccineis; dorso abdomineque imis, tectricibusque femorum fusco atris; rostro pedibusque atris. Statura Cor. Persæ Ill.”*

Corythaix Porphyreolopha, Vigors, Proceed. Zool. Soc. Part I. p. 93.

Smith, Zool. of South Africa, Pl. xxxv.

Corythaix Burchellii, Smith, S. African Journal, v. p. 13.

Anatomy Prof. Owen, Proceed. Zool. Soc. Part II. p. 3.

THIS very beautiful species is one of the many interesting birds which, a few years since, reached this country from the vicinity of Port Natal. A living specimen appears to have been presented by Mr. Audubon to the Zoological Society, which, however, did not long exist in our climate; it was dissected by Professor Owen, furnishing some interesting information on its structure, which is published in the proceedings of the Zoological Society for 1834. The result of the examination was, that in structure it is most nearly allied to the Toucans, Hornbills, and Parrots; “that it manifests a close relationship to the Scansorial order, and a marked deviation from the typical structure of the Rasores.”

The specimen from which our drawing was made, was said to be brought from the vicinity of Port Natal. In length, it is from seventeen to eighteen inches. The head is adorned by a large circular crest, folding over the base of the bill, and though not so long as in the other known species, it is thicker and more ample; at the base of the bill, and above the eyes, it is of a metallic

* Vigors, Proceed. Zool. Soc. Part I. p. 93.

CORYTHAIX PORPHYREOLOPHA.

green, changing gradually on the crest to a deep bluish-purple, which reaches downwards on the nape. The eye appears to have been surrounded by a crimson skin. The throat, neck, back, shoulders, breast, and belly, are pistachio-green, across the back and breast coloured with tile-red, producing a peculiar tint of pale reddish-green, and nearly forming a band on these parts. The rump, vent, under tail-coverts, and thighs, are of a dark greenish-grey. The wings and tail, and upper tail-coverts, rich bluish-green, with metallic reflections. The quills brownish-black, with the usual rich crimson markings at the base, and on the inner webs, the first quill only being without it. The bill and legs are black, the former rather irregularly serrated.

Dr. Smith remarks, "this species, so far as I know, has only yet been found towards Port Natal. It inhabits the scattered thickets which occur along the coast, and in the densest portions of these it seeks its food, which consists of fruit, &c."





TETRAO TETRIX.

BLACK GROUSE. (FEMALE ASSUMING THE PLUMAGE OF THE MALE).

PLATE XLVII.

N. S.

IT is now well ascertained, that in several groups of the *Rasorial* birds, there is a disposition in the females to assume the plumage of the male; and observations have led to the conclusion, that derangement of the sexual organs, whether from age or disease, has been the cause of the change, or, at least, was present in those birds where the change had appeared. The *Phasianidae* and *Pavonidae* have hitherto been considered as the most liable to this occurrence, but being the two families which have been most under the control of man, opportunities to observe it have been more frequent, while the circumstance of domestication itself, may be conducive in some measure to disease. Instances, therefore, in the other families, are worthy of being recorded, and we have much satisfaction of being enabled to give the figure of a bird, which was brought under our notice by Mr. Shaw of Drumlanrig, already well known to Naturalists by his important experiments on the young of the salmon. The bird in question was shot at Drumlanrig, and sent to Edinburgh, to be stuffed by Mr. Carfrae, who, upon dissection, ascertained it to be a female. In size it is, we should say, rather under the average dimensions of the grey-hen, and the plumage exhibited the variations which it has been endeavoured to represent on our Plate, a great proportion of the colours of the male varied with those of the female. The tail is decidedly forked, and has the lyre form of the other sex, but is less developed in all its parts, though it keeps up the form, and with it has assumed the dark colour.

Mr. Shaw writes to us, that "he has only met with one other example of a similar kind, but the male plumage was by no means so perfect, neither was the curvature of the tail so well defined."



NEUTALIA STANBURYI.

— 35 —

NECTARINIA STANGERI.

DR. STANGERS' SUN-BIRD.

PLATE XLVIII.

N. S.

N. brunnea, flavescente nitore ; fronte, gula, anterioreque colli aurato-viridi, collo tænia angusta coccinea circumdata.

N. Stangeri, Ann. Nat. Hist. x. p. 187, 1842.—*Niger Carmelite Sun-bird*,
Nat. Lib., Nect. p. 198.

IT is by the attention of Mr. Waterhouse that we have been enabled to give a figure of this species of *Nectarinia*, which appears to be undescribed ; Dr. Stanger, the geologist to the Niger expedition, and to whom the members of it were so much indebted during their arduous return down the river, procured a small collection of birds in its vicinity, which he placed at the disposal of the Curator of the Zoological Society of London, and these have, for a time, come into our possession. *N. amethystina*, *fuliginosa*, and another curious species from Western Africa, of which we also now have given a figure, may be considered as allied to it, and represent the artificial group.

The Niger bird, of which a single specimen only was procured apparently in the complete breeding state, has the upper parts, cheeks, and sides of the neck, of a yellowish umber-brown, with bright reflections when looked at between the light ; the under parts are dark umber-brown, and, when seen across in the same manner, have the reflections purple ; there are no coloured axillary tufts. The coronal patch extends from the bill to the line of the eyes, is dark bluish-green, varying in tint with the light, and terminating posteriorly in a narrow band of violet. The space between the eye and the rictus, with the chin, are intense black ; from the base of each maxilla, there is a narrow stripe of bluish-green,

NECTARINIA STANGERI.

inside of which, the throat, and fore part of the neck, are bright yellowish-green, terminated by a narrow band of steel-blue feathers, edged with scarlet; this is produced by the last row of steel-blue feathers having the naked tips of the plumulets produced, of a bright scarlet, forming a narrow fringe on each, and appearing like a thread of that colour, bounding the brilliant gular patch. The bill, legs, and feet, black. The entire length, five inches.





NECTARINIA ADELBERTI,

NECTARINIA ADELBERTI.

THE EBOE SUN-BIRD.

PLATE XLIX.

N. S.

Mas.—*N. supra*, genis lateribusque colli brunneis; fronte et corona, strigaque maxillari viridibus, mento nigrescente, anteriore colli pectoreque flavescente albis, abdomine castanea. *Fem.*—*Supra* olivacea-brunnea; *subtus* flavescente-alba, plumis medio pallidé brunneis.

Cinnyris Eboensis, *Thompson's MSS.*—*Souimanga d'Adelbert*, *Cinnyris Adelberti*, *Gereais Mag. de Zool.* iii. Pl. 2.—*Nectarinia Adelberti*, *Nat. Lib.*, *Nect.* p. 244.

By the attention of Mr. Thompson, one of the surgeons to the Niger expedition, we have received, for examination, both sexes of a remarkable Sun-bird, procured in the vicinity of Eboe. It will range near those having the colouring and markings of *N. amethystina*, *fuliginosa*, and the bird represented on the preceding Plate, but differs in having the parts generally occupied by the patch of splendid colours, of a dull straw-yellow, which forms a very conspicuous contrast with the otherwise dark plumage. In dimensions, the male is four inches and eight-tenths in length; above, the plumage is a uniform yellowish umber-brown, slightly darker on the wings and tail. The imbricated coronal patch passes the line of the eyes, and is of a deep green; below, the chin is velvet-black, bordered by a maxillary stripe of deep green; the fore part of the neck and upper breast are straw-yellow, bordered on the lower edge by dark umber-brown, which shades into chestnut-brown, the colour of the lower breast, belly, and sides. The under tail-covers are dark umber-brown. The female is, in length, about four inches and a-half, above, uniformly of a dark hair-brown, nearly approaching to umber-brown on the wings and tail; below, the colour is dark yellowish-grey.

NECTARINIA ADELBERTI.

each feather darker along the centre. The bill, legs, and feet, are dark umber-brown; in the male they are black.

A figure of the male is given in the *Magazin de Zoologie*, conducted by Guerin, and the specimen is said to have been received from Senegal; the describer, M. Gervais, has given its name in honour of Adelbert, a conchologist. The specimens, from which our drawing was made, are now in the British Musuem, and we are not aware that any others have yet been received by British collectors.



NEUTARINIA CHLOROPYGIA.

1645

NECTARINIA CHLOROPYGIA.

GREEN-RUMPED DOUBLE-COLLARED SUN-BIRD.

PLATE L.

N. S.

Mas.—*N. supra*, mento colloque viridi-aureis, alis caudaque brunneis, pectore inferiore fascia coccinea, abdomine caudaque flavo olivaceis; plumis axillaribus flavis. *Fem.*—Supra olivacea, alis caudaque brunneis, subtus flavescens.

N. chloropygia, Ann. Nat. Hist. x. p. 188. Green-rumped Double Collared Sun-bird,
Nat. Lib., Nect. p. 172.

THE first specimens of this species were brought to this country by Dr. Stanger, from whom, coming into the possession of Mr. Waterhouse, by that gentleman's attention they were entrusted to us for examination. Subsequently, Mr. Lewis Fraser, the naturalist to the Niger expedition, returned to this country, bringing with him, among some other interesting birds, specimens of both sexes of this Sun-bird, which he also forwarded for our inspection, from both of which the descriptions which appeared in the Annals of Natural History, and are now given, were made out. Mr. Fraser states, in his notes: 'Very common, in flocks of from twenty to fifty, near the houses; the note short but sweet; perch on the long grass and branches of the small shrubs.' A female was procured breeding. The nest, made of grass, was pendent from the branches of a small bush; she alone was the architect, both carrying and weaving the materials; the male was not observed to assist in any way.

N. chloropygia is very closely allied to the *N. chalybea* of Southern Africa, and we think, may have been confounded with it. The distinctions are, a less size and less proportional length of the wings and tail, the want nearly of the blue collar, that being indicated by a deeper green, slightly tinted with blue, by the

NECTARINIA CHLOROPYGIA.

under parts and flanks being pale oil-green, whereas they are brocoli-brown in the other, and by the upper tail-covers being of the same brilliant green with the head and back, and not rich violet-blue, as in the bird from Southern Africa.

The male of the Niger, or Western African specimens, has the upper parts, wings and tail excepted, of a very rich emerald bronzed green; the wings and tail brownish-black, on the former the edges of the feathers being dull oil-green. The chin, neck, and upper parts of the breast are similar in colour to the upper parts, and finish on the breast by a deep bluish-green band, which represents the blue collar in *N. afra* and *chalybea*. This is succeeded by a crimson band, about four-tenths of an inch in breadth, and having the tips of the feathers on the upper part of it narrowly edged with golden-green. The belly, flanks, vent, and under tail-covers, are of a pale oil-green; the axillary tufts, of a king's yellow, are very ample; the bill, tarsi, and feet, black. The female is slightly less in size; above, the plumage is a yellowish or olive oil-green (in *N. chalybea* it is greyish-brown); the wings and tail umber-brown, but having more light colour on the edges of the quills; the tail having the outer feathers tipped with grey. Underneath, the chin is yellowish-white, the breast of a deeper shade, tinted with olive, and the centre of the belly is nearly gamboge-yellow, shading to a paler tint on the sides, flanks, and under tail-covers; the bill, tarsi, and feet, brownish-black.

Le Vaillant's 'Sucrier à plastron rouge,' a bird inhabiting the forests of Auteniquoi, is described as about intermediate in colouring between the greater and lesser collared birds, the crimson band being less in breadth, and having the red feathers transversely marked with lines of a rich golden green. This bird we have not seen, and the red collar of our present species is similarly marked, but in some specimens only partially so. We subjoin the comparative dimensions of *N. chalybea* and *N. chloropygia*.

	N. CHALYBEA.	N. CHLOROPYGIA.
Entire length	4 inches 6-10ths	4 inches 1-10th
Bill to forehead	7 $\frac{3}{4}$ -10ths	7-10ths
Wing to longest quill	2 inches 3-10ths	1 inch 9-10ths
Tail from extremity of upper covers 1 inch	1-10th	7-10ths
Tarsus	6-10ths	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ -10ths





NECTARINIA DISCOLOR.

1845

W.H. Lizars



NECTARINIA OBSCURA.

DUSKY SUN-BIRD.

PLATE LI.

N. S.

Mas.—*N. supra olivacea flavā, alis caudae brunnēis subtus griseo virescens, plumis axillaribus pallidæ flavis.* *Fam.*—*Absque plumis axillaribus.*

N. obscura, *Jard. Nat. Lib.*, *Nect. Synop.* p. 253.

THIS species, of unobtrusive colouring, was forwarded to us by Mr. Fraser, and was at first considered as probably identical with the bird described by Dr. Smith, in his South African Illustrations, under the name of ‘*C. olivacea*.’ That gentleman, however, at our request, sent a specimen of his bird for our comparison, and there can be no doubt of their being entirely different, which their localities, on directly opposite sides of the continent, may assist in confirming. Mr. Fraser’s notes state it to have been ‘killed about the houses.’

Both sexes are of a yellowish-olive above, darker on the crown, and having a more yellow tint on the lower part of the back and rump; the wings and tail are umber-brown, feathers edged with oil-green; the two outer tail-feathers tipped with grey; in the male birds the colours are slightly clearer. The whole under surface in both is wine-yellow, in the male tinted with gamboge-yellow in the centre of the belly. The bill and legs are umber-brown, pale in the female, the mandible at the base of a pale yellowish pink. Subjoined, we give the characters of this species, and *C. olivacea*, Smith, contrasted.

N. OBSCURA, Jardine, 1842.

MALE—*Above*, yellowish olive, darker on the crown, and having a more yellow tint on the lower back and rump; wings and tail umber-brown, feathers

NECTARINIA OBSCURA.

edged with yellow oil-green; tail underneath appearing dark, the outer feathers tipped with greenish-grey. *Below*, whole under surface wine-yellow; axillary tufts gamboge-yellow; bill, tarsi, and legs, umber-brown—first with the base of the mandible pale. Length, 5 inches 2-10ths; of bill to forehead, 9-10ths; of wing to longest quill, 2 inches 7-10ths.

FEMALE—*Above*, similar to male. *Below*, greyish-wine yellow; bill, tarsi, and feet, pale umber-brown. Length, 4 inches 9-10ths; of bill to forehead, 8-10ths; of longest quill, 2 inches 3-10ths.

Hab. Fernando Po, Niger Exped. *L. Fraser.*

N. OLIVACEA, Dr. Smith, 183—

Cinnyris olivaceus, Smith, Illust. of the Zool. of South Africa, in Descrip. of *C. verroxii*.

MALE—*Above*, dark olive, on the crown nearly bluish-black; wing and tail dark umber-brown, feathers edged with yellowish-olive, tail with the outer feathers tipped with grey. *Below*, oil-green, paler on the vent and under tail-covers, on the throat tinted with yellow; axillary tufts pale saffron-yellow; bill, tarsi, and feet, umber-brown. Length, 6 inches; of bill to forehead, 1 inch; of wing to longest quill, 2 inches 6-10ths.

Hab. Vicinity of Port Natal, Dr. Smith, MSS.—*Note*, differs from the last in larger size, darker colour above, difference of the tint below.



ANTHREPTES FRAZERI.

ANTHREPTES FRASERI.

NIGER ANTHREPTES.

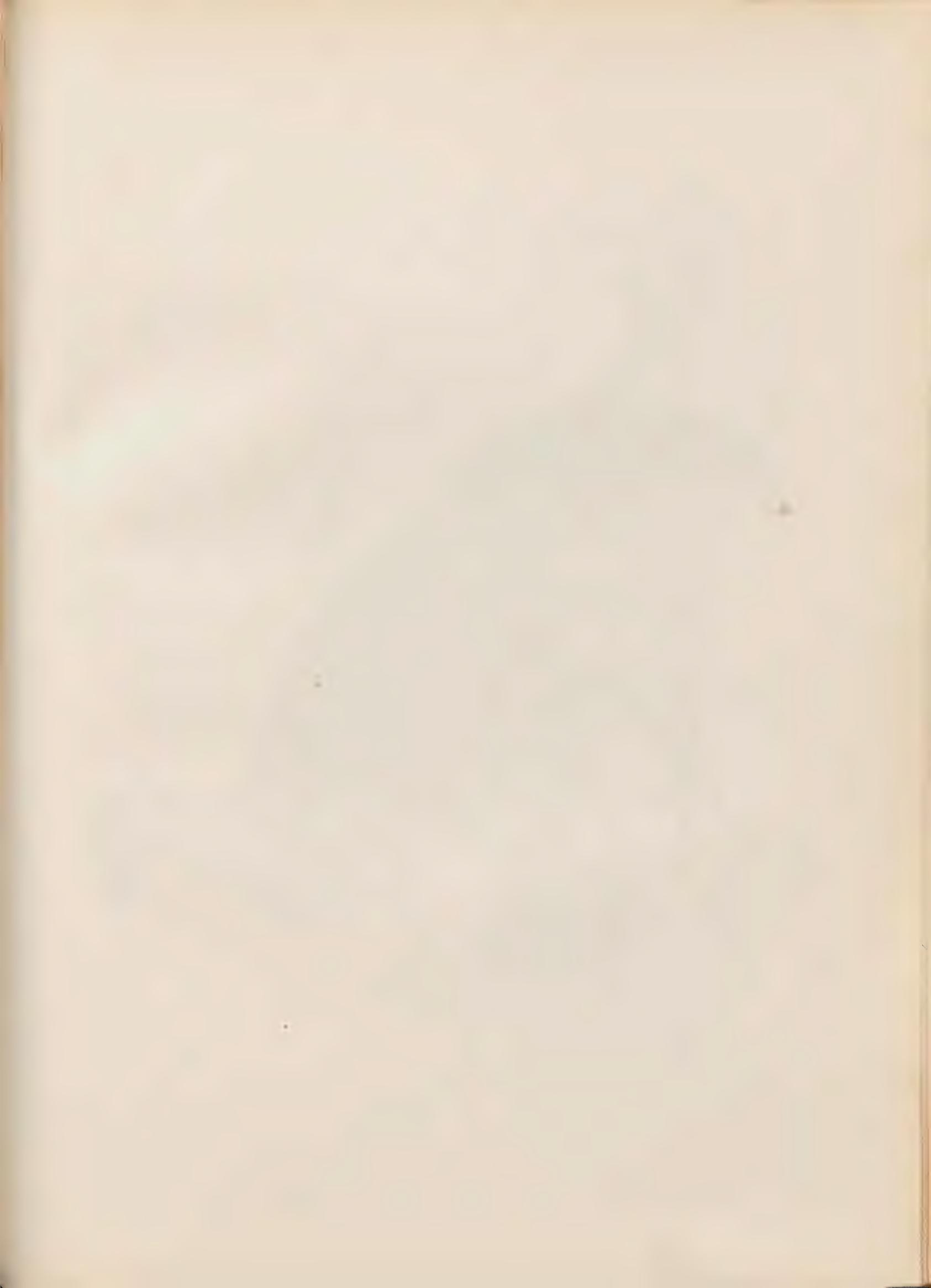
PLATE LII.

N. S.

Mas.—*A. supra olivacea*, alis caudaque brunneis, rectricibus remigibusque viridescente-flavo marginatis;
subtus viridescente-flava, plumis axillaribus rubro-aurantiacis.

For an examination of the very remarkable bird of which we now give a figure, we are also indebted to the kindness of Mr. Fraser. It was procured in the month of June 1842, at Fernando Po. Two other specimens only were seen, but could not be obtained. They had a straight, dart-like flight, appeared of a long slender form, and ran actively up the small branches in search of insects. The specimen procured was proved by dissection, to be a male, and was considered to be in perfectly adult plumage.

The genus *Anthreptes*, Swainson, was separated from the typical *Nectariniæ*, from its stronger and straighter formed bill, and more insectivorous mode of life. The species are limited in numbers, hitherto known only in Africa and India, and are dressed in a plumage which nearly equals in splendour that of the birds from which they were separated. The bird before us, however assimilating to them in form, varies in having a dull and unobtrusive plumage, exhibiting, in this respect, a resemblance to the birds of the last Plate, and one or two others, which form exceptions among their brilliant congeners. It is of large size, being in length about five inches and eight tenths; the bill is very slightly curved, of considerable strength at the base, and, for a third of its length, next the tip, is regularly notched. Above, the plumage is of a yellowish-green, the wings umber-brown, all the feathers broadly margined with yellowish oil-green, giving a proportional tint of that colour to the parts. The tail is yellowish umber-brown. The entire under parts are very nearly of the tint of sulphur-yellow, around the eyes and on the maxilla of a clearer tint, and this is relieved by two axillary tufts of bright scarlet orange, slightly paler at the base. Mr. Fraser describes the bill 'olive-yellow at the base of the lower mandible, legs olive-green, irides hazel.' The two former, in their dried state, have changed into pale umber-brown.





TETTIGIDEA LATERALIS.
644

TETRAO TETRIX, FEMALE.

PLATE LIII.

N. S.

IN the winter after the specimen which we figured on Plate XLVII., was procured, we obtained another example of the female Black Grouse assuming the male plumage, which we also have considered worthy of representation, from the circumstance that it is in the form, more materially than in the colour of the plumage that it varies. The colouring is that of a dark female, the feathers on the neck having a broader tip of black than usual, but with no other variation. The tail, however, in colour like that of a female, is as long, and has as great a fork as that of an adult male. We do not know the district where the specimen was killed; it was obtained in the Edinburgh market, and came into our possession by the attention of Mr. Fenton, Preserver of Objects of Natural History, George's Street, Edinburgh.

